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Team TBD: Storefront JS Assignment

<https://github.com/CSC317-Fall-2021/csc317-group-html-storefront-CaliPrerunner>

Findings:

Our findings of this assignment were the importance of a good file structure, proper planning, writing useful and intuitive variable names and the vast expanse of how we could use javascript capabilities for fitting our needs. We found it a bit difficult to incorporate JavaScript into our existing structure on our files without having to rework how variables were named. This was mainly due to issues with the behavior of the language that took some time to adjust too. The type of field used was also an area of difficulty but also easily handled by javascripts dynamic array. That is, being able to set heterogeneous array entries.

While not ideal on the large scale, to pull off a demo it was certainly useful to have this capability to make sure our forms were valid. One final bit of usefulness we discovered with javascript, at least in the short time we had with it, was the ability to make cookies with our authenticated user information taken from the fields. Quite exciting to see our front end start to finally integrate with where the pieces will fall into the back end of our website. For the future, we are considering a parser to be used on the user data that we take in for our back end to then authenticate or whichever other possibility that comes with server side authentication, caching and delivery.

Issues:

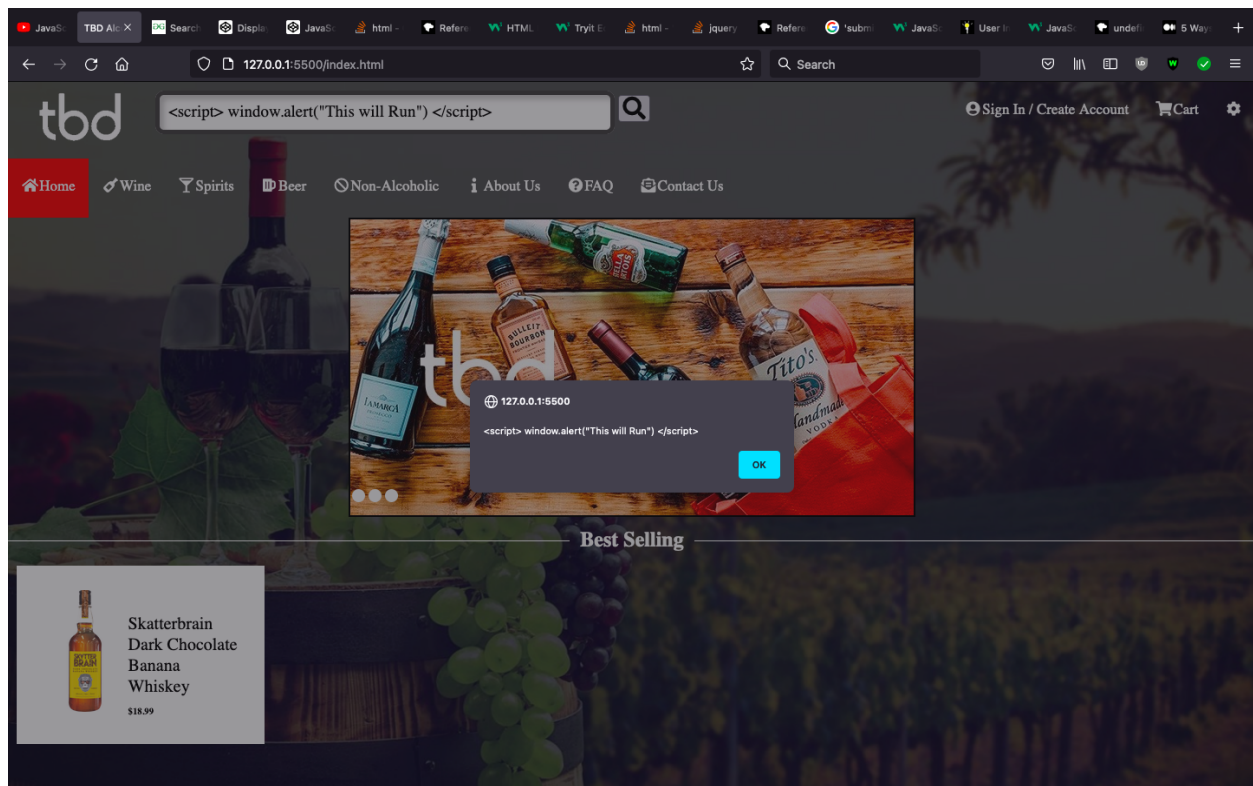
Class names of the same type, specifically buttons, were very annoying to deal with without having a unique class name structure for the button location, purpose, etc. There was a bit of confusion on how the language would specify which events it is listening to or if it would be able to receive data outside of its scope. Essentially the unknown and unexplained behaviors that arose during the dev process stemmed from a lack of understanding how the javascript was affecting the page. For example, on our cart we ran into the issue of an overflow where the cart remove was always superseded by the favorite on the same bar. Issues like these slowed down our development as we had to wrangle the javascript to fit our needs rather than having it simply work for the sake of working with it's unintended behaviors. There were many issues with the behaviors of the buttons and the browser attempting to make sense of all of it due to trampling of properties.

Solutions:

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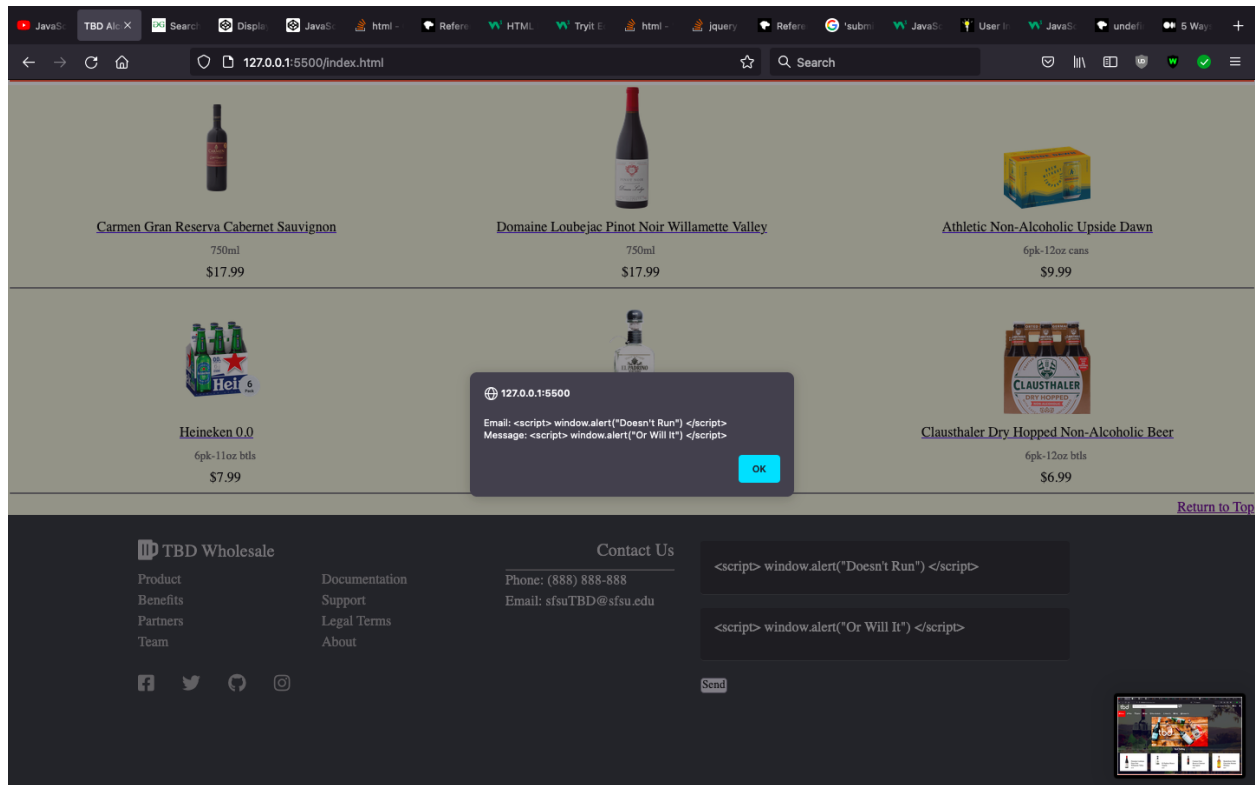
One of our first breakthroughs with our javascript errors was the discovery of the heterogeneous array as it allowed us to begin moving our website into the first steps of incorporating our backend. The form fields we had since day one we're finally functional with the javascript able to return to us the user input. With the required user data in whichever field, take our contact us for example, we were finally able to piece the bits and components of our site together into one fully functional part of our site. Credit to w3schools once again for their resources and aiding this project.

Searchbar working as intended:



Contact Us working as intended:

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Cart JS working as intended:

