UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS

Wow. 2020 already. Although it sounds like a cliché, time flies, whether you're having fun or not! It REALLY does! Faster and faster as you get older. It's flying by so fast that I'm afraid to put aside a piece of paper for even one day, for fear that before I get back to it, a week or two might have passed and I may have missed a deadline! Needless to say, with all of the incoming papers and emails and inputs in a person's workday, one

has to prioritize, and as Missy our bookkeeper admonishes me, a person has to deal with one piece of paper at a time. So each thing has to take its place in a waiting line. And then, whoosh! A week has gone by, and many of those pieces of paper are still there, waiting in line!

Oh, well, so much for the daily whine (sometimes served with cheese, sometimes not.).

We have a huge project staring us in the face, scheduled for the week beginning February 16. The way time goes, that's really tomorrow, or the end of this week, and so it causes great anxiety in me because there is so much yet to be arranged.

We may have mentioned it before: We got a great deal on a brand new set of Hussman upright (door-type) freezers that fit almost exactly in the space where the old and ancient island freezer sits, between aisles 10B and 11B. They became available at 40% off, since someone inadvertently placed a duplicate order with Hussman and they had to get rid of them.

We had to jump on the deal quickly, before it sold to someone else. So here we were with a set of freezers and nowhere to put them while we figured out how to use them. Thank God for Hert Trucking! They rented a 53' trailer to us, brought it to the store the day the freezers were delivered, and we were able to offload them from the delivery trailer and transfer them to the Hert trailer.

Now we have a hard deadline to get all of our ducks in a row (or maybe they're penguins, since it's a freezer). And even though the date is in mid-February, please see my comments on the passage of time above. Am I anxious about it? Yes, a little. OK, I lie. Yes, a LOT!

To give you an idea of the complexity of the whole thing, here's a brief outline of what's involved.

1. Arrange timing and coordination with the refrigeration installation company Cool-Sys, the fixture builder John's Installations, the merchandising group from UNFI (the wholesaler), Hert Trucking, and our own staffing schedules.

2. Find a freezer trailer to use for storage of the products that are temporarily displaced while the old freezer is dismantled and the new one installed. *(Done!)*

3. Find a scrapper who can haul away the old freezer, which is a substantially big job. *(Done!)*

4. Figure out scheduling of our staff for 3 or 4 overnights to get this done. *(Not done!)*

5. Figure out how to empty freezers, into what kinds of containers, how to organize them in the freezer trailer in such a way as to be able to find stuff for you customers. *(In progress.)*

6. Decide how to layout the product in the freezers. *(In progress.)*

One major aspect of the job involves retrofitting the other island freezers (the one with pizzas and ice cream currently, and the narrow one with frozen meat) with new compressors that use a new Freon gas that satisfies government regulations about what kind of gas is acceptable to their (bogus) climate change agenda. (Yes, I disagree vehemently with their agenda. How could you tell?)

Another factor is that we didn't think the freezer job would be big and stressful enough, so we added into the mix to change out the deli case that presently has the cheese section in it and use the 3-door freezer that came with the deal and run it as a cooler. That solves what to do with the extra case and removes one more very old deli case and compressor system. After all of that, if we survive that big project, we have several others looming before us. Not only do several more refrigeration cases need replacement, but all of our electronics are obsolete (and I mean ALL), and while they are functional for the moment, most are well beyond the software support expiration dates and the physical computer boxes are aging as well.

Sheesh! This involves two servers, 9 checkout computers, and 12 work stations. Also, it will require totally new programs for the checkers to use and for pricing and connectivity to our wholesalers. The Windows 7 work stations need to be "upgraded" to Windows 10, just in time for Microsoft to come out with Windows 11 or Windows 2020 or Windows *&#*!@%, whatever the next one will be. Checkers will need to be retrained, and other staff with varying levels of computer savvy will have to learn Windows 10 and new programs to go along with that.

Electronics ALWAYS balk, causing all kinds of creative problems that no one anticipates, especially because "it worked just perfectly at that other store we just installed (so what's wrong with YOU?)"!! One of our long-time dealers has said for years, "Only in Lucerne Valley", suggesting that we may be located on an Indian burial ground that wreaks havoc with our electronics that they just NEVER see anywhere

else. Aren't we ever so lucky?

So, as this is only a partial list that doesn't include ongoing operations projects like responding to government mandates here and there, and fixing things that break, and keeping up with new products, or monitoring the ever-changing list of what is or is not legal in the Peoples Republik of Kalifornia, I guess you can see that we won't be bored for a while.

Please keep smiling at us. We'll need it.

Linda Gimmel

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

From the Web.

IS WINDOWS A VIRUS?

No, Windows is not a virus. Here's what viruses do:

1. They replicate quickly -- okay, Windows does that.

2. Viruses use up valuable system resources, slowing down the system as they do so -- okay, Windows does that.

3. Viruses will, from time to time, trash your hard disk -- okay, Windows does that too.

4. Viruses will occasionally make the user suspect their system is too slow and the user will buy new hardware. Yup, that's with Windows, too.

Now it seems Windows is a virus, but there is a fundamental difference:

Viruses are well supported by their authors, are running on most systems, their program code is fast, compact and efficient and they tend to become more sophisticated as they mature.

So Windows is not a virus.

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WASH N SHOP COIN LAUNDRY 248-7311

FIRST FOUNDATION BANK 248-2717

DR. ASHOK MELVANI M.D. 248-1070

ECHO RECYCLING 760-617-5404

AT THE SERVICE COUNTER In the store

- COPIES • FAX SERVICE
- PACKAGE EXPRESS -- UPS only
- PAYMENT STATION SCE, Frontier & Verizon

PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY 242-4900

Rancho Drugs – Tues. 11AM, **Wed. & Fri. 2PM**

ST. MARY HEALTH VAN 760-946-4240

Every Tuesday

ST. MARY HEALTH VAN

The health van will be not be here the whole month of January.

ON THE PORCHES AT THE STORE

SAT & WED, Jan. 18 & 22, 7A-Noon, **DISPLAY OF BIBLE LITERATURE**, by Jehovah's Witnesses.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 13, starts at 5:30PM. At the Alternative Education Center, 8560 Aliento Rd up Highway 18.

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = $1, four = $1.34, five = $1.68, six = $2.00).

ECHO RECYCLING

760-617-5404

On the Northeast side of the parking lot.

Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM

Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.

Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV **$1.70/lb**

#1 Plastic CRV **$1.26/lb**

Pricing good thru January 22, 2020

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THOSE WHO SPONSOR THIS STORE; SEE http://thenewlight.net