May 2001

Inland Empire Business Journal

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Local Scientist Turns Old Nylon Carpeting Into New Resource

by Rod C. Jackson

The man who gave the world "Armor All" is about to give the world something far more valuable — nylon carpet recycling!

"Nylon carpet recycling?" you ask. "What's so valuable about nylon carpet recycling?"

The short answer is ... a lot!

If Joe Palcher has his way, a major waste problem, a major landfill concern, and a practical way to recycle valuable material are all about to be resolved in one fell swoop.

By way of background, Joe Palcher is a local scientist whose stock and trade is polymer chemistry — which is the study of plastics and rubber. His career spans nearly 30 years of puttering with rubbers and plastics to develop a myriad of products ranging from ABS anti-skid braking systems to polymer guidance connectors for underwater missile systems to his most famous find, Armor All®.

You remember Armor All® — that milky liquid that makes windows shine. If Joe Palcher has his way, you will also see Armor All® on the floor of your home or office. And not just on the floor, but in wall-to-wall carpeting!

The man who gave the world "Armor All" is about to give the world something far more valuable — nylon carpet recycling!

California’s Energy Crisis — Switching Profits From One Pocket to Another?

by Georgine Loveland

Is California the victim of an "artificially created, up-and-down crisis," dependent upon which power broker is selling to whom, in this and other states such as Oklahoma, which is the crossroads for the fluctuating balancing act of the nation’s gas reserves in Chandler and Cushing, where money and profit is "pooled?"

"The strategic decision made 10 years ago to focus on building a large domestic natural gas reserve base is clearly paying dividends in the current natural gas price environment," said Mark Stroh, executive director of the OCVB.

"We’re very excited at providing these services to our attendees," stated Ty Stroh, executive director of the OCVB. "We are all so tied into the world of the Web and its important that our visitors have this availability."

Users of the kiosks can also link into the OCVB and Convention Center Web site for convention updates and to OCVB members to acquire information on their products and services.

Also supporting convention attendees is the full-service mail boxes,
When the Good Guys Become the Bad Guys

by Joe Lyons

Back in the '90s, the hero of environmentalists everywhere was the Cadiz Land and Development Company. Don Quixote farm from Santa Monica fought for L.A.'s trash to be hauled up to the High Desert to bury in a pit right next door to the Cadiz farm.

Scandal, corruption and lawsuits flew and newspaper ink flowed like a river. Everyone who ever planted a seed in the ground was the hero of Mother Earth.

Then there is, this is now. In the 21st century, the worm has turned. It seems that Cadiz is also in the water business, which only makes sense. It is trying to turn the barren desert into fertile farmland, so wouldn’t it be interested in water? That’s why the company came up with this great new idea.

So, is Cadiz an environmental hero, protecting the fragile desert eco-system, or some sort of “Shooty Whithal,” warehousing water like the bad guys in the movie Chinatown? Maybe it is just another company, answering to stockholders and a board of directors who are trying to turn a profit and doing what it takes, while everyone on the outside tries to hang some hat or another on it.

Maybe we should ask people...

before we try to make them our heroes.

Are You Ready for the Ultimate Reality TV?

Timothy McVeigh is scheduled to be executed on May 16. He is facing capital punishment for blowing up the Oklahoma City Federal Building and killing 168 people. He wants to be shown on TV.

In fact, the survivors and the victims’ families want to witness his execution. The courts have allowed a closed circuit showing in a theater to make accommodations for the crowd.

The question becomes, will a company, answering to stockholders and a board of directors...
The need for affordable medical health insurance continues to be a concern for many Californians, but the need for dental insurance, is often overlooked. A recent UCLA study showed that 6.8 million Californians lack health care insurance, although this is marked an improvement from previous years. Experts attribute the increase in health care coverage mainly to the economic boom of the mid 1990's.

According to UCLA researcher E. Richard Brown, more Californians because provided by "going to work for companies that already offered health insurance, rather than employers deciding to add health insurance as a benefit." While it is good news that more Californians than ever before have health coverage, the number of Californians without dental insurance is more than 18 million, almost triple that of those with health insurance.

What is the correlation between gum disease and, more significantly, life-threatening diseases? Bacteria! How does one know if he or she has gum disease? Red, swollen and tender gums that bleed easily during brushing can be an early indicator. How does gum disease develop into a more serious, life-threatening disease? By producing large amounts of bacteria in the mouth that can eventually enter the bloodstream.

The mouth provides a direct link to one's health, so the importance of having dental insurance has never been greater. What once was looked at as a "safety insurance" is becoming more of a necessity than a luxury. Aside from the medical benefits of having dental insurance, it is also a smart business move for those employers who offer this benefit. The "Oral Health Report" showed that employed American adults lose more than 20 million workdays due to dental disease and repeated dental visits. As the economy slows down, indicators suggest that the upfront medical insurance coverage will reverse itself. Because dental insurance is still considered a secondary insurance, we can expect a decrease in uninsured in this area to grow as well. Can we really afford for that to happen?

The interesting and amazing thing about dental insurance is that it not only benefits the consumer, it benefits everyone — employers, dentists, state and federally-funded programs, and medical insurance carriers.

Troy Becker is president of the California Association of Dental Plans, which represents 33 dental plans and 17 million Californians. He can be reached at 949-752-8255 ext. 192, Gary L. Dongan, DDS, MPH is dental director of PacificUnion Dental and the president of the Alameda County Dental Society as well as the founding member of the Alameda County Dental Foundation. He may be reached at 925.363.6000.

Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce, Business Showcase 2001
Thursday, May 17, 2001 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Loma Linda Campus Plaza
Loma Linda Market Area

• An outstanding opportunity to reach the Loma Linda community with your product or message!
• Showcase your business, service or organization to the community!
• Broaden your business base!
• Network with other business professionals!

For information on participation and sponsorship, contact the Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce at 909-799-2825.
GETTING ORGANIZED
Getting Organized...A Simple Strategy
by Steve Kaye, Ph.D.

Life is complex. If you are like most people, there are times when you may feel buried under things to do. Here’s an easy organizational strategy that will help you slow things down so you can live your life at your own pace. The key is simplicity. Apply it to these four areas.

**Simplify Your Work**

We can’t live our life at work anywhere else. Make your work environment an efficient, organized tool that maximizes your productivity. That way, you will get more done in less time.

Start with your desk or workplace. Remove everything except those things that you use daily. Put everything else away in drawers, shelves, boxes, or the like. This includes the gallery of trinkets and toys that you can’t bear to throw away. You will give you the freedom to concentrate on the task in front of you. It will also save time if you need to find something quickly. Wasting motions spent putting things aside, looking for needed items, and cleaning up spaces for tasks. Next, put away all loose papers. It takes less time to file a page than to find it. Again, toss out anything whose usefulness has expired. The secret to efficient work is to determine ahead of time what you are going to do for maximum impact. This will depend upon your boss (and the nature of your work (revisit!)).

You may wonder, what do I do with high-value tasks that are also the most difficult to perform? Use common sense. You and your boss are looking for more benefit from completing many easy-to-do medium value tasks than from one very difficult task. If in doubt, ask your boss to help you set priorities.

**Simplify Your Relationships**

I was nine years old when I realized everything that you do may not be done. I looked at the wheelbarrow and knew a year in with anyone who does not want to give you the help you need. Donate them to others or take their phone number out to the trash. You can’t be as helpful to people with time who support you, help you, and make you feel good about yourself.

Next, fire any relatives who make you feel bad. I realize this may be difficult for some, but ask yourself if you will be able to live with the outcome. You may be able to spend less time with them or, if the problem is due to their siblings, simplify calling, writing, and visiting them. Lastly, spend time with successful people at work. Avoid the losers, flakes, and complainers. These people are going nowhere. Instead of spending time with people who are doing what you want to be doing in the future.

**Start with the ordinary things.** This includes taking care of things you are most likely not going to do. For example, Mohr started Mr. Power Solar Inc. when companies were going out of business, because the government was taking the tax credits.

Mohr has kept his solar company alive for the last 20 years by fixing all the systems that were installed under the tax credit program. He was actually the only one, until about five years ago, that the government started to see that they could make some money doing repairs on solar equipment.

Now Mohr has hanged up, waiting for a second wind. He is looking for a career to come back. "Many energy crises are coming to a close. Now an energy crisis is causing the public to realize that solar is going to play a strong role in the future. He has sold some additional solar electricity in it is set up properly. If you have it, your bill will not go up when the grid comes back. "Mohr believed digital meters are such an independent solar electric system as a result. Mohr said.

Mohr believes digital meters are such a person buys a third of that bill will be the only part that will go up. "There are two types of solar electricity in it is set up properly. If you have it, your bill will not go up when the grid comes back. "Mohr believed digital meters are such an independent solar electric system as a result. Mohr said.

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**Polarization setup with Wind Turbine (solar electricity).**
Marketing executives worth their salt also know that developing a brochure (or "textbook," as the media can't start before proper proofreading, planning, market targeting and positioning is accomplished. Most millennials of creepin2 perfectionism occur because these steps are not accomplished.

For some companies with a multitude of books, this manual will not kill the writer or writer hour. It's more responsible for the company's account. If one book fails to accommodate them, the next decision is to accept the conceptual flow. When the copywriter does the re-write, the marketing head makes the final decision on text and sends it to the layout artist. The final product gets one edit for correct spelling and grammar only, so write. Keep in mind the marketing head is responsible for revenue; this is her or his decision. If this person is not trained to make the decision, then your company has a poor plan, or needs a stronger bottom line. There's nothing more than wasting your highest paid team's time!

Now without flowing the text, (knowing how much text must be fit in) the first brochure layout is complete. The plan reflects, and then the marketing head is responsible for revenue, this is her or his decision. If this person is not trained to make the decision, then your company has a poor plan, or needs a stronger bottom line. There's nothing more than wasting your highest paid team's time!

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In the case of seamless system. In the case of because they felt that they had been drove Window ope...
Managing

Proven Tips From Chef Moric to Cook You

by Paul Lemberg

Why do most growing companies stall at the $3-$10 million
lamarange? Why do so many promising executives get stuck at one
cal point in their career? Why do many entre-

preneurs and executives need a

never trained to be executives or

sales, marketing, finance, engineer-

Lemberg noted,

Lemberg explained that these

entrepreneurs and executives need a

result to get past the stage they be-

But, they aren't the only ones who

stall.

Companies often stall some-

where in the $3-$10 million range," Lemberg explained. "One of the key

casions for this is the CEO holds on so long in more critical areas -
his eye can do it better than anyone else, or there's no time to

train anybody anyway. That's plain wrong."

Lemberg's tips for moving out of

management's way included:

• Make a career plan for yourself-

high ROI and a low costbenefit ratio.

• Ask yourself, 'Is what I am doing

worth the contribution I can make right now?' If not, don't do it. If it still

needs to be done, ask 'Who is the very best person for this job?'

• What are the things you are still
doing - even though you know

'you shouldn't' be? How is that

how insurance companies rate

automobile insurance is a major

vehicle in most market areas -

a very vast majority of drivers in California, according to

the president of the Personal

Federations of California (PIFC).

The California Court of

Appeals reviewed Proposition 103

and unanimously upheld the cur-

rent auto rating factor regulations

used by all auto insurers. In addi-

tion to the three mandatory factors

required in Proposition 103 -

for a California driver to be

furnished with the opportunity to

select the carrier of his choice for

all types of auto insurance and to

comparative services for all types of auto insurance -

the California Court of

Appeals concurred that the new

rating factors which were pro-

posed before the case was filed

are based on the rate for each

driver and can be established on

roads in the state.

The Drews

Project will be built at the Drews

Substation, 559 South Pepper

Ave.; the Century Project will be

located at the Century Substation,

20 South Century Drive. Both

generating units are almost entirely

correctly placed at the same time.

It is generally claimed that

in small areas of different field

construction is required.

The Drews Project is expected to

have a generating capacity of 40

megawatts of electricity by using four

10-megawatt, simple-cycle
gas turbine generators.

Rellios Construction has

built over 5,000 projects in the past 20 years, from simple

electrical installation to commercial

high-rise building multiple floor remodels.

We provide hands-on management that has enabled us to build projects from budgeting and bidding to scheduling and supervision, with on-time completions.

Give Rellios Construction a call for a bid on your next project.

Inland Empire Business Journal

May 2001

The Bankruptcy Filing for Pacific Gas and Electric Takes California's Energy Crisis Toward a Rational Financial Resolution as Well as a Political and Regulatory Solution

by Victor Sahn, Esq.

Slightly more than six years ago, a Pacific Gas and Electric coincidently occurred for the County of Orange as well as the Orange County
testimony of the California Court of Appeal's 9th Chapter filings, which are

reorganizations for qualified govern-

mental and governmental agen-

cies. The Bankruptcy Code, came about due to losses sustained as a result of

natural and international financial markets

were extended to include many

utility funds by the county in the

securities markets. Over the suc-

ceeding decade, it was feared that

in the Wall Street Journal. The pro-

ceeds of these loans were to be used

to bolster California's cash reserves which have been depleted by more than $5 billion of purchas-

e by the benefit of its

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An Important Job for Working Women: Make Sure the Future Is Taken Care Of

We all find it hard to plan for the long term, yet women face some unique challenges when it comes to planning for retirement. Everyone needs to address the reality of living longer — and spending more years in retirement — but women tend to live even longer than their male counterparts. Yet there are valid reasons why some women may not be in a position to properly prepare for their financial future.

Unfortunately, many women are still employed in settings that don’t offer retirement plans to employees. Also, many women leave the workforce to take care of their family for some time. They may have to work even harder and longer later in life, to make up for the resulting “gaps” in income and pension coverage. A Rand Corporation study quoted in a May 16, 2000 New York Times article, shows that a first child lowers a woman’s lifetime earnings by 13 percent, while a second child lowers earnings by 19 percent.

Making Savings for Retirement is Priority

The importance of preparing for the financial future applies whether you’re a single or a married woman. The good news is that it’s never too late — or too early — to begin. If you aren’t currently working, see how much you can afford to set aside each month. It is important not to fall into the trap of postponing retirement planning or leaving it solely up to a spouse.

Any financial planning decisions should also take into consideration what would happen in the event of divorce or widowhood. Although no one likes to think about these possibilities, the odds aren’t that far removed. According to the Women’s Institute for Secured Retirement, nearly one-third of single women over the age of 75 — those who were never married or divorced or widowed — were living in poverty in 1999.

Making Savings for Retirement is Priority

Tuning is Everything

There are all kinds of financial products on the market that can help you accumulate funds for the future. According to a 1999 Deferred Annuity Buyer Study, 55 percent of all annuities are purchased by women. There are several solid reasons for this choice. Annuities are flexible, tax deferred vehicles that can be used to help achieve long-term financial goals and provide a source of retirement income. There are several distinct advantages to investing in annuities. With a deferred annuity, the money you put in accumulates tax deferred, which means taxes are paid only when you withdraw the money, not in your earnings grow. (Any withdrawals made prior to age 59 and one-half may be subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty tax.) This may allow your money to accumulate much faster than it might in a comparable, currently taxable investment.

In addition, an annuity can provide you with flexibility. With many annuities, you can add to your policy as your finances permit, and you can even arrange for systematic contributions to be deducted directly from your checking account. There are several different types of annuities, offering a variety of funding options and potential levels of return. Lastly, many annuities offer a guaranteed death benefit feature that may allow the annuity proceeds to be passed on to your loved ones outside of your estate.

Take Control of Your Future

Annuities are designed to help you accumulate money for your retirement, but they can also help meet your needs during many stages of your life. Women — who are at greater risk for poverty during retirement years — it is especially crucial to start planning now. Annuities can help provide the peace of mind and security you need for the future — so you can concentrate on today.

For more information on how annuities can help you prepare for your retirement, please call Hannah Waldah, agent for New York Life Insurance Company, at (909) 888-1115 ext. 449.

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The Forecast Group, L.P. Names Glenn L. Rowan as Vice President and Corporate Controller

Glen Rowan has been named vice president and corporate controller of The Forecast Group, L.P. (Forecast), a division of Forecast Homes, a major homebuilder in Northern and Southern California and Arizona. He has more than 18 years experience in the construction industry, both in finance and operations. Rowan oversees accounting and fiscal operations for the company's three homebuilding divisions as well as its land development and public firms. He is responsible for various operational activities of The Forecast Group.

Rowan has been with the company for 13 years and has been responsible for various aspects of the company's financial operations. He is responsible for overseeing the company's accounting and fiscal operations, as well as its land development and public works projects.

Rowan also has an extensive background in the construction industry with a focus on service, sales, installation, and rehabilitation for public works projects.

A resident of Rancho Cucamonga, Rowan received a bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting from Chapman University.

Contact: Gail Rowan; 909-484-9765; gail@forecastcos.com; www.forecastcos.com
Solar Power... continued from page 5

solar industry started taking off, the utility companies realized that the solar industry could become an independent, utility provider.

“People’s gas bills went from $40 to $70 a month,” said Mike Mohr, chief executive of Inland Solar (solar) and Solar Power, a solar energy consultant. “That was an extremely difficult time to be in the business, not having to worry. Solar energy can heat pools. It can heat water for the house. And, it can provide the electricity for the house.

Now is the time for the public to take a serious look at what the solar industry can do, because it is a long-term solution to a long-term problem that has been developing for years. The solar industry has the potential to provide clean, renewable energy to the public at a lower cost than traditional fossil fuels. It is a sustainable solution to the global energy crisis. By investing in solar energy, we can help preserve the environment and reduce our dependence on non-renewable resources. The future is bright for the solar industry, and now is the time to take action.”

### Employment Services/Agencies

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<th>Company Name</th>
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| -
| Rank 1: SunLine Staffing & Consulting Services, Inc. | (909) 949-1895/1898 | Temporary, Direct Hire, Training Assessment Services |
| Rank 2: Personnel Service | (909) 351-4192/351-9941 | Clerical, Technical/Financial, Temp/ Area Manager |
| Rank 3: Placement (909) 306-4133 | (909) 351-4192/351-9941 | Clerical, Technical |
| Rank 4: Manpower, Inc. | (909) 949-1895 | Technical, Temp., Jan Faulk |
| Rank 6: Selection | (909) 949-1895 | Technical, Temp. |
| Rank 7: Staffing Service | (909) 351-4192/351-9941 | Technical, Temp. |
| Rank 8: Mainstream Personnel | (909) 949-1895 | Technical, Temp. |
| Rank 10: Manpower, Inc. | (909) 949-1895 | Technical, Temp. |

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**SunLine Staff Present at Global Conferences**

In April, 2000, SunLine became the first transit agency in the world to open a hydrogen generation/storage/dispensing and education facility. The subject of this is extremely timely as India is in the throes of choosing with an order to replace 10,000 diesel buses with cleaner-burning natural gas vehicles.

The problem is called "global warming" for a good reason! Crowell points out. "If our help can only offer easier transitions to clean fuel, that's a win for everyone.

SunLine Transit Agency, which services Southern California's Coachella Valley, made history in 1994 by becoming the first public transit agency to park its diesel buses and switch overnight to a fleet powered in part by compressed natural gas. Today, the agency operates all natural gas, Hythane® (a combination of hydrogen and natural gas) and zero-emission hydrogen fuel cells.  

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**Citizens Business Bank is providing Commerceptive Engineering, Inc., with an MBA loan and a line of credit to facilitate their move to a new, enlarged building.**

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**Amazing Things Happen With the Right Banking Relationship**

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**Citizens Business Bank**

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**The Bank of Citizens BAnk**

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**Citizens Business Bank**

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**Inland Empire Business Journal**
If You Make Just One Investment All Year, Make It in Yourself:

FEATURE SPEAKERS

Tina L. Antypas
Erin Brockovich
Vicki Lawrence
Marcia Wallace

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

If You Make Just One Investment All Year, Make It in Yourself:

SESSION 1
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

SESSION 2
10:35 - 11:05 a.m.

SESSION 3
11:10 - 11:40 a.m.

REGISTRATION - WOMEN & BUSINESS CONFERENCE

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Robbie Motter… continued from page 25

Resource Center for Non-Profit Management.

In 1997, she founded PWR to provide mentoring, networking and professional opportunities for women in Riverside, San Bernardino and Eastern San Gabriel Valley. PWR holds monthly dinner meetings in Riverside that feature an educational speaker. PWR sponsors "Share-a-Meal" that provides low-income women with appropriate clothing to wear to job interviews.

The chapter has grown from seven members to 175 within four years and has recently expanded by starting breakfast and lunch groups in the High Desert, Palm Springs, Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino and Temecula. In addition to her duties as executive director of PWR, she is also the West Coast Regional Coordinator for NAFE.

The SBA will honor Motter at a Small Business Award Luncheon on May 17 at the Ontario Convention Center - as part of a wide variety of activities for small businesses. For information about the luncheon, contact the Inland Empire Small Business Development Center at (909) 781-1900.

For more information on all of SBA’s programs or small business calls the SBA answer desk at 1-800-U-S-A-SBA, or visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

Legislative Proposal… continued from page 19

Song Brown Program. Currently, California has a statewide hospital RN vacancy rate of 20 percent - meaning that one in five bedded nursing positions go unfilled. California faces a shortfall of more than 25,000 registered Sandy Bay RNs by 2006. In sheer numbers, California currently has more than 247,000 RNs with active licenses, but will need in excess of 303,000 RNs by 2006. But, if current graduate rates hold steady, California will have only 271,857 RNs with active licenses in 2006.

Statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor indicate that California has the lowest number of RNs per 100,000 population in the country. California has 566 RNs per 100,000 population, compared to the national average of 800 RNs per 100,000 population. Massachusetts has the highest number of RNs per 100,000 population in the country.

Under SB 317, additional funds would be made available to existing state training programs in California. The money would be used for such things as the training of additional faculty, additional clinical facilities and clinical training materials. Under the bill, 4,000 new nursing students could be educated each year, nearly double the number of nursing students now trained in the state.

The Senate Appropriations Committee will consider this bill in May.
Energy Crisis — A Survival Guide for California Businesses

by Rick Neeham, Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth

Rolling blackouts are predicted to be a common occurrence as temperatures rise and energy demands increase in the coming months. California businesses need to identify how their company will be affected and develop an action plan to insulate their company from major harm. Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth is helping companies like yours develop equipment and other electrically powered machines will stop without warning. Employees may become trapped in elevators or find themselves in rooms or parking lots without safety lighting. Following a blackout, even the electricity shuts off, companies might be forced to send employees home for lack of power. Late, overtime may increase pay-roll costs. Loss of power or lack of safety contingency plans could contribute to employee injuries, resulting in workers compensation claims. Most importantly, California law requires employers to pay non-exempt (hourly) employees a half day's wage if the employee reports to work but is provided less than half the day's scheduled work. Though failure of utilities has historically been considered an exception to this requirement, the California Labor Commissioner is refusing to allow this exception to employers who have signed an I-E or other interruptible electricity agreement.

Data Loss - Unannounced blackouts will lead to data loss as computers and related equipment shut down without notice. Product Loss - Products may be damaged or destroyed if the production process stops unexpectedly in a blackout.

Products and Services Delivery - Interruptions in electricity may inhibit your ability to provide products and services when required by your contracts. Interruptions may also inhibit other companies from providing your company the products and services it needs. Your contracts, especially the force majeure clauses, must be reviewed to determine your risks.

Insurable Losses - Insurance may help for some losses. However, most claims require physical damage to property (which may not happen to your company’s property when the electricity goes out) and policies contain many exclusions. Policies must be reviewed carefully.

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Legal Writing Success, the Web’s Leading Legal Research and Writing Site, Launches New Services for Lawyers

Now there’s a revolutionary way for lawyers to write better using the Internet. Legal Writing Success helps avoid the legal writing pitfalls that plague law students. It helps law students and law firms who began using Legal Writing Success for their memes, motions and briefs.

"In the same afternoon we'll here from a Berkeley student writing for law review and a New Jersey lawyer drafting an appellate brief," explains Robert Unterberger, president of Legal Writing Success. Unterberger, a practicing lawyer and experienced legal writing instructor, has presented legal writing seminars nationally. He has brought together a deadline-oriented staff of experienced lawyers who share extraordinary research, writing and editing skills.

"It’s so easy to use Legal Writing Success, Lawyers simply call or e-mail the company and indicate what service they need. A Law Writing Success lawyer works with you every step of the assignment is completed. The company even has supervising lawyers review the work its staff performs. It’s like having a legal team working for you. "Why go it alone when you don’t have to?" adds Unterberger.

Legal Writing Success also offers legal writing workshops for law firms, as well as a writing skills CD based on seminars presented to insurance companies. Offices in New York, Boston, Washington and elsewhere. The Web site provides, at no cost, a legal writing self-test, tips to improve legal writing, and valuable legal research and writing links.

Legal Writing Success gives lawyers, law firms and legal departments the legal research and writing edge.

The Time Is Now for Insurance Companies to Bridge the Technology Gap!

Let’s face it. The very word “insurance” makes most business owners cringe — and with good reason. Finding the right coverage can be a painful, cumbersome, and confusing experience. So you decide to shop around. According to the latest survey of new business owners, insurance firms rank second only to IRS forms in terms of legalese. How’s that for bad news?

But here’s the good news: the Internet and the New Economy are fundamentally changing the way the insurance industry does business. And to stay ahead of the game, insurance companies must make it their top priority to bridge that technology gap.

The name of the game is speed!

From de-bugging software to fulfilling orders to worrying about next month’s IP0, the leader of today’s “New Economy” companies have a lot on their minds. And they’re constantly pressed for time.

Markets, industries — even competitors — are literally changing overnight, and companies have to run at full throttle just to keep up with this ever-shifting marketplace.

The last thing they want to deal with is an insurance company that’s mired in the Old Economy bureaucracy. Business owners are saying, “I can do my banking in five minutes. What about insurance?”

"Business owners are saying, ‘I can do my banking in five minutes. What about insurance?’" explains Plascencia. "We rewrite your draft fast and affordably, no matter what shape it's in; and we can do it with our highly trained staff. We provide legal writing services at a fraction of the cost of traditional legal service providers. We offer the same level of expertise, but at a fraction of the cost.

"Why go it alone when you don’t have to?" adds Unterberger.

"Why go it alone when you don't have to?"
Technology Gap...

continued from page 29

Women Apply to Law School in Record Numbers

For the first time ever, women applicants to law school have surpassed men. The trend will likely result in more women becoming the majority of law students in law schools across the nation.

Starting in the fall of 2000, some 49.4 percent of 45,534 students enrolled in law school were women. While numbers for fall of 2000 are preliminary, the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) reports that more women than men had applied for admission.

In the 1970s, only 10 percent of applicants to law school were women, but each decade has seen significant increases. In 1985, women comprised approximately 37 percent of the applicant pool. This percentage climbed to 40 in 1991. By 1995, the proportion of women had reached 45 percent.

“’This is no surprise, but it’s gratifying to see the gains that women have made over the past three decades,” said Janice L. Austin, an LSAC trustee and assistant dean of admissions at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

These gains may be attributed in part to attempts by numerous law schools to deal equitably with their applicants. As evident in their mission statements, these law schools demonstrate strong dedication to providing educational opportunities to women and minorities in order to create a more representative bar. Their efforts have resulted in more diverse student bodies they hope reflect the vast plurality of American society.

Women themselves have spilled the mass movement of entering law school and becoming lawyers. Women are taking advantage of opportunities that may not have existed years ago. Additionally, there has been a “slow changing of assumptions about what women should consider doing,” said Joan K. Webb, director of admissions at Yale Law School. Barriers are being broken down for women in other graduate and professional schools as well, including medicine, business, and education, and the advantages in law school have grown.

Whatever the lure of the law, for women or for men, law schools continue to fill their classrooms with individuals who will be met with challenges to the mind that only a law school education provides.

—by Alexis R. Boley, assistant dean of admissions, the University of La Verne College of Law

ADVERTORIAL

Executive Time Out

Visit a Haunted House — the Winchester Mystery House in San Jose

has an eerie aura — a curse, ghastly spirits, sporadic doors and an eerie monotone voice.

by Camille Bounds, travel editor

If Hansel and Gretel had been dumped off by their hairy, lazy parent in the 1930s, they might have found themselves in a room of the Winchester Mystery House. They would have had another much more interesting story to tell than the original Grimm’s fairy tale.

One of all, they would have met Sarah Winchester, the owner of the house. This very gingerbread-looking house, instead of the Le Chatelinaws that Hansel and Gretel are beckoned to follow, is covered in the.baseUrl().

Sarah felt that the number 13 had special powers and had 13 of them set up in her home. She had a house where she would have another more interesting story to tell than the original Grimm’s fairy tale.

“Tut, tut! What a load of nonsense!” exclaimed the owner, who was known to be a shrewd woman. She was a medium who had special powers and had 13 of them set up in her home. She had a house where she would have another more interesting story to tell than the original Grimm’s fairy tale.

“I am sure you have heard of the number 13. It is a curse, and it is the subject of many superstitions. The number 13 is considered unlucky in many cultures, and it is said to bring bad luck. However, in the case of Sarah Winchester, the number 13 was a blessing. She believed that by having 13 of the doors and a glorious stained glass window at the entrance to her house, she would be able to keep all the ghosts away.”

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The Los Angeles County Fair Association has added three new members. Dr. Linda Bossomaran of Upland is a hematologist/oncologist. She serves as an associate medical director at the Robert and Maureen Nelson Family Cancer Center at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and has received a number of awards for her work in women’s health and as a clinical humanitarian. Randall Smith is the president and chief executive officer of Mount San Antonio Gardens in Pomona. He has served as a board member for Claremont Rotary, Economic Old Baldy Council Boy Scouts of America, Pomona Economic Development Corporation and any Haynes Center Foundation. Currently, he is on the board for the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and the United Way. He is the president-elect of the Claremont Rotary Club. Ron Vera is an attorney in Claremont and a partner in the law offices of Gutierrez and Vera. He is on the boards of the Pomona Valley YMCA and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and a member of the Pomona Rotary. William McCallick has been named joint ventures and Arizona division controller of The Forecast Group, L.P. McCallie is responsible for the day-to-day operation of Eagle Glen Country Club, Corona Country Club Estates, Corona Hills LLC, Forecast Group Arizona Division and Aspen Meadows (a master planned community in Coconino, Arizona). ULTIMATE Internet Access, Inc. (UEA) announced that Darwin Dilts has joined the company as manager of technical support. In his new role with UEA, Mt. Dilts is responsible for the technical support division of ULTIMATE Internet, UEA is a leading regional Internet service provider serving homes and businesses throughout the Inland Empire, the Coachella Valley, the High Desert, Los Angeles and Orange Counties...The Professionals continued on page 42

Convention Center... continued from page 1
Etc., located in the North Plaza, which opened in late February. Mail Boxes, Etc. provides a wide range of business services including: packing, shipping, postage, photocopying, laminating and binding, business items such as phone cards, camera, film, office and shipping supplies are also available.

Books for the Ear... continued from page 9
our readers," says Davis. "People who want to give something to the community, who have extra time on their hands, or skills or knowledge they want to share. Our program allows them to do that. You’d be surprised how many retired

Haunted House... continued from page 31
The Winchester Mystery House is located at 525 S. Winchester Boulevard in San Jose, California and is well worth a visit when you are in the Northern California area. Many wineries, including the renowned Marius Winerie, are nearby for generous tasting experiences.

There are also many other interesting attractions, as well as attractive shopping opportunities in the area. Trains, trolleys and cars are available for an easy trip from San Francisco. Call (408) 247-2000 for more times and rates. Special rates for groups are available.

Camille Bounds is the travel editor for the Inland Empire Sunday Journal, the San Gabriel Business Press, and the travel editor for the western division of Sunrise Publications.

Energy crisis... continued from page 28
fully.
Investor/Customer Relations - Rolling blackouts may lead to disappointing earnings and slow product/service delivery time. A communications plan is needed to keep investors and customers informed.
SEC Reporting Obligations - The Securities Exchange Commission may require public companies to make disclosures in prospectuses and other SEC filings regarding the crisis and its impact on your company. Existing published projections or forecasts may need to be modified to account for the impacts of the electricity crisis.
Conservation - Conservation is key to reducing the number of rolling blackouts. You can provide you with information on how your company and its employees can help your California and its economy by conserving electricity.
Richard T. Needham is a partner in the law firm of Stradling Yoouca Carlson & Rauth, specializing in real estate law. His practice includes representing clients in all aspects of real estate, including acquisition, development, owner...

Reality TV... continued from page 3
As if the sight of blood makes up for the airing in a SIG Alert for half an hour. But we don’t want executions to be an issue.
There was a time when capital punishment was a public thing. But we don’t want executions to be a public thing.

We think about the consequences of watching an execution. In our time, we don’t want the sight of blood makes up for the punishment. If it is inhuman, people will not stop at the sight of blood makes up for the punishment. If it is inhuman, people will not stop.

Supporters of capital punishment believe that the execution of a criminal will act as a deterrent to criminal will act as a deterrent to criminal will act as a deterrent to criminal will act as a deterrent to criminal will act as a deterrent to...
Five Steps to Financial Independence for Women

by Dolores Heland. Morgan Stanley/Orange Branch — (909) 605-1331

Clearly women need to be concerned with their financial futures. But as the demographics of the workforce changes, the economic partners — should women spend some time enhancing their investment knowledge before they invest their money? A five-step plan can be helpful start on the road toward financial stability.

Step One: Set Goals. Your financial goals may be as simple as savings to buy a car or as long term as saving for retirement. The reality is to be realistic and specific — and to start as soon as possible. Investors should rule three rules in mind when setting goals:

- For example, “I want to retire in 20 years with a monthly income of $3,000.”
- Only way to achieve a secure financial future.
- Disciplined. Contributing to a 401k program is the only way to achieve a secure financial future.

Step Two: Organize Your Finances. You’re a woman with goals. Now determine where your finances stand.

What’s ahead in the

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For more information on any of these issues please call (909) 484-9765 ext. 26
Law Firms

Ranked by Number of Attorneys in the Inland Empire

by John Eiken

Aurora Wolfgang was recently appointed coordinator of Women's Studies at California State University in San Bernardino, where she remains a French professor, but the Women's Studies program makes up a third of her picture. She feels during the 17th and 18th centuries, men and women wrote in reaction to each other's work and in reaction to each other's ideas.

"So, even when we look at a male author's text that is written in response to what was a famous female author, we do not understand what he is responding to," Wolfgang said. She came to this conclusion from a literary point of view, because that's how she reads it.

Other scholars in different fields such as psychology or sociology look at different ways in which women's experience has not been studied or their contributions to culture have not been appreciated. These scholars look at women's contributions and experiences across the board in a way that has been lost in our understanding of our culture and our history.

Women's Studies deals multi-disciplinarily. That is why there is a committee, instead of a chair of a department. This gives students a wide exposure to different disciplines and to different ways of thinking and ideas about Women's Studies. Women's Studies has made every discipline question what it does. The program consists of four core courses on feminist theory and introduction to Women's Studies, but all the other courses come from a wide variety of disciplines. So, there are courses of sociology, psychology, English, criminal justice, political science, and even when we look at a woman's body of work, she is sitting in those disciplines. These topics are important because of the work we do, because, how we interact with others, and how we interact with others.

Women's Studies students may be able to help each other. Students in Women's Studies, and in its many manifestations; in how we interact with others, how we interact with others. Women's Studies is a dirty word. Women's Studies is a coordinating position that is written in a woman's body of work, she is sitting in those disciplines. These topics are important because of the work we do, because, how we interact with others, and how we interact with others.

Women's Studies programs at Cal State San Bernardino, San Bernardino, San Bernardino, CA 92407.
Nylon Carpentry... continued from page 1
plastic and rubber parts of your car
look shiny and new. Well, Joe Palcher invented and holds the patent to Amor All.
"I'm a scientist by trade," Palcher tells the Inland Empire Business Journal. "I'm the solver. If you've got a problem or need an answer, you go to some
tbody in the field. When it comes to
polymers, I'm the guy you come to."

And that is how Joe Palcher got into the nylon carpet recycling business. Palcher is in the midst of raising $5 million for a project that takes old, used nylon carpet and recycles it for the injection molding industry and the construction industry. At the same time the project recycles it for the injection molding industry each year.

"Six-to-eight-billion pounds of nylon carpet is thrown into landfills every year," says Joe Palcher. "The industry hasn't found a practical way to recycle it, some landfill sites are already refusing to accept it, so disposal, and others are getting ready to follow suit." That's the stuff I'm talking about," chuckles Palcher, "and I think I have found a practical solution that works."

In short, Palcher has developed a process that takes used nylon carpet and breaks it down into three parts. First, the adhesive removed from the carpet, turned into a powder and can be sold to the construction industry as concrete and asphalt — it's ideal for road-building material. The next two steps separate the poly(ethylene (rubber) and nylon components of the carpet and turns both into handy pellets. Those pellets can then be sold to the injection molding industry, which makes the world's plastics and rubber products.

"We start out with dirty, old nylon carpet," says Palcher. "I end up making these neat, strong pellets which can be used by any one of a number of users. We also end up with a nylon carpet that's no good for any industry that can't seem to get enough of the stuff.

The nylon market has grown by leaps and bounds since its discovery in 1940. In 1997, the nylon industry consumed 1.2 bil-

IONIUS OF AMERICAN WOMEN

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Irish EM PLOYEE ASSOCIATION OF W O MEN BUSINESS OWNERS (ITARAO).

The pilot project is to test the scale or scope of the materials we need to build the full-scale facility in Nevada.

"That facility will be operational between two years, generating 12-1 million a year in profits, and then we can begin expanding into other states," says Palcher. "It's not as far-off as it seems that within the next decade we could have 20 plants operating in the U.S. and also begin recycling projects underway in Europe and Asia.

"My process doesn't allow any thing to go down a drain, go up a smokestack or leave the building as a single waste item," says Palcher. "It's a sealed system which uses water and solvents which we can clean and recycle on the spot."

So why has no one tried this before?" asked The Inland Empire Business Journal.

"Actually the industry is working

ON A SIMILAR PROCESS, but from a different point of view," replies Palcher. "They — and we are talking about Monsanto, DuPont and Allied — are trying to find a way to recycle the used nylon into their own production cycle.

Put another way, they want to take the recycled material and use it to sup-

Held by the railroad tracks.

"The cash dividend was payable on April 5, 2001, to shareholders of record as of April 4, 2001. The dividend was declared on the common shares of CVB Financial Corp. and represents a continuation of the quarterly dividend policy implemented in 1995. Given this dividend policy, we are committed to rewarding our shareholders and also investing in our business for future growth, said D. Linn Wiley, president and chief executive officer. "This is our forty-

CVB Financial Corp. declares Cash Dividend

CVB Financial Corp. (AMEX: CVB), a $2.3 billion in assets financial services holding company, has announced a $0.14 per share dividend for the first quarter of 2001. The dividend was approved at the regularly scheduled board of directors meeting held last month.

The cash dividend was payable on April 19, to shareholders of record as of April 4, 2001. The $0.14 dividend represents an increase of $0.02, or 17 percent, over the previous quarter dividend of $0.12.

CVB Financial Corp. operates Citizens Business Bank, the largest bank headquartered in Southern California's Inland Empire region. The company specializes in serving business and professional clientele.

"We are pleased that the board of directors of CVB Financial Corp. allows us to reward our shareholders for their support and confidence," said D. Linn Wiley, president and chief executive officer. "This is our forty-six consecutive quarterly cash dividend and reflects the continued superior performance of CVB Financial Corp."

Citizens Business Bank serves the Inland Empire, Orange County, and the San Gabriel Valley regions of California with 23 branches. CVB Financial Corp.'s common stock are listed on the American Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol of CVB. For information, visit www.cbbank.com.

"The beauty of this whole thing," he says, "is that virtually every state, the federal government as well as cities and counties all have incentive plans for recycling. California has 15 to 20 such zones.

"Anaheim, for example, has a strip of land by the railroad tracks. If you put a recycling business in that zone, they, in this case the city of Anaheim, will provide assistance in land acquisition, building con-
Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism Shines Its Light on the City's Hotel Industry

10,000 Miniature "Palm Springs" Flashlights To Be Distributed

No one will be left in the dark this summer if the Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism has its way. The initiative, which is expected to last until the end of October, will see 10,000 mini flashlights distributed to visitors in the city as a souvenir gift for visitors. The flashlights bear the Palm Springs logo and the words "Palm Springs Visitor Information Center." The aim is to ensure that visitors have a lasting memory of their trip and that they return in the future.

Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism has partnered with various companies to make this initiative a success. Some of the companies involved include United Airlines, United Express, Delta Airlines, and Southwest Airlines. These companies have agreed to provide millions of flashlights to be distributed at no cost to Palm Springs.

In addition to the flashlights, Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism is also planning to distribute a variety of other items to visitors, including maps, brochures, and other information about the city. This initiative is expected to help attract more visitors to Palm Springs and to help them have a memorable experience.

Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism is committed to providing visitors with the best possible experience and to ensuring that they return in the future. The bureau is grateful to the companies involved for their support and for helping to make this initiative a success.
I n R e s s e n s, President Abraham Linc oln g rant ed a post of f ice nea r the R ancho de Cuc among a, which was the first p ost off ice in Western San Ber nardino County. A fter John Chan ney moved to nearby San Bernadino, he and his son John Rains founded San Bernardino and Etiwanda — was made. The town was also the first in the area to have electricity, due to successful hydro-electricity opera­ tions. As early as 1890, the community enjoyed paved streets and streetlights, as well as rock curbs.

Alta Loma, a subdivision of the Rancho de Cucamonga homestead, was also founded under the state's laws. Alta Loma has con­ tinued to be one of the fastest-grow­ ing communities in Southern California. The community has given the community a modern feel with a historical atmosphere.

Business and industry have also actively grown over the years. The town has been home to numerous organizations for city residents and works closely with the Inland Empire Workforce Development Center and the Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce.

Five steps...

Executive notes

by Jason Ramirez

Incorporated in 1977, the com­ munities of Cucamonga, Alta Loma, and Etiwanda became what we now know today as the town of Rancho Cucamonga. Early success es in business development, begins­ ing with the early business ventures, paved the way for the city's success.

The history of each community dates back to the late 1800s. As Mexico gained its independence from Spain, Mexico's new governor, Juan Alvarado, awarded land grants within Baja California and what is presently known as California. On March 3, 1850, the town of San Bernardino was established on 13,000 acres of land known as the Cucamonga area. There he estab­ lished an adobe home, a successful winery and a variety of businesses.

In 1864, the city's first public school opened.

In 1881, the town of Etiwanda was officially incorporated.

In 1890, the town of Alta Loma was established.

In 1977, the town of Rancho Cucamonga was incorporated.

In 1997, the town of Covina was incorporated.

In 2001, the town of Upland was incorporated.

In 2004, the town of Chino Hills was incorporated.

In 2009, the town of Rancho Cucamonga was incorporated.

In 2010, the town of Chino Hills was incorporated.

In 2011, the town of Fontana was incorporated.

In 2012, the town of Bloomington was incorporated.

In 2013, the town of Ontario was incorporated.

In 2014, the town of Fontana was incorporated.

In 2015, the town of Chino Hills was incorporated.

In 2016, the town of Ontario was incorporated.

In 2017, the town of Fontana was incorporated.

In 2018, the town of Chino Hills was incorporated.

In 2019, the town of Ontario was incorporated.

In 2020, the town of Fontana was incorporated.

In 2021, the town of Chino Hills was incorporated.

In 2022, the town of Ontario was incorporated.
CLIMBING THE CORPORATE LADDER IS A LOT EASIER WITH 4-WHEEL DRIVE.

2001 Highlander. Toyota's all-new mid-size SUV. Utility's never been so comfortable.

2001 4Runner. Toyota's most popular SUV. And that says it all.


2001 Land Cruiser. 4-wheel drive luxury. Now you're sittin' pretty.

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Atache: Celebrates the Opening of Marasmino and Prime 10 Steakhouse

Atache: Casino offers an upscale dining experience

The Atache Casino, celebrating the opening of Marasmino Restaurant and Prime 10 Steakhouse.

The Atache Casino's menu is an eclectic offering of nearly 40 items around the world designed to mix, match, and share with friends.

Prime 10 Steakhouse acts as a relaxed, family-oriented atmosphere.

Everyone faces stress of life every day. From minor traffic jams to losing your job, each task takes a toll. The increasingly fast pace of life is stressful in itself. It's not news that people react differently to stress. Some people can pick themselves up and go on. Others find themselves stuck in a rut. Still others stop eating apples.

Based on his extensive research, however, the author believes that one way to make us react to stress is predictable and changeable. That is news. Dr. Stoltz believes that people can change the way they react to stress. That's why he calls the result "Adversity Quotient." He has proven that even people who have very different temperaments, such asintroverts and extroverts, can change their reactions to stress.

This new book, the author builds on his previous work, still using the mountain climbing metaphor to describe how they think in terms of major categories of people reacting to adversity: "Climbers," "Campers," "Riders," and "Refugees.

People with a high AQ react to stress. They may face different challenges in their lives, but they have the same response to stress, and that response is what determines their success in life. The author explains that there are four elements to an Adversity Quotient:
- Control
- Ownership
- Reach
- Endurance

The book provides both an introduction to the AQ concept for those who haven't read Stoltz's earlier work and a general plan of how a person can improve their AQ.

Various companies are using this concept to develop their employees. For example, some companies are using AQ tests to assess new hires. In this new book, the author builds on his previous work, still using the mountain climbing metaphor to describe how they think in terms of major categories of people reacting to adversity: "Climbers," "Campers," "Riders," and "Refugees.

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(Part II)

Tom Stevenson's WORLD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHAMPAGNE 
and SPARKLING WINE ($50).

This lavish, large format book has certainly proven its worth and topical due to the great interest in the specialized "Champagne Clubs" such as the 2001 edition published in San Francisco and New York that are emerging.

I have just received another lavish and beautiful book on the bubbly: 2000 CHAMPAGNE ($60) by Galleano Winery, Hard cover, 345 pages. This is a most impressive production that unlike Stevenson's book is limited to only "Champagne" and the "real thing." It is certainly equal in quality of photography and production to Stevenson's book and is very well researched and authenticated.

This is quite an achievement for a new author from Sweden, where the book was produced in both English and Swedish editions. Christian Pol Roger said "It takes a very perceptive outsider to create a coherent picture of this ever-changing scene and Richard Juhlin is just such a man. Widely known for his prowess in blind tastings, he can pinpoint vintages and how he is just such a man. Widely known for his prowess in blind tastings, he can pinpoint vintages and how

THE VODKA COMPANION, A CONNOISSEUR'S HANDBOOK ($19.95) by Desmond Begg, and THE BOURBON COMPANION by Gary and Mardecki Ragan. The book vodka profiles 60 of the world's premier vodkas and includes the very fancy new products from Holland and East Europe. I really don't know what a "vodka connoisseur" tastes; as for me, a great vodka is one that is totally tasteless and odorless—pure rocket fuel! This is one of the reasons we keep vodka in the freezer, to totally kill any taste that might exist. We know from talking to distillers, that this is hard to do with vodka, and the precision distillation that produces a fine vodka.

Unlike wine, the pleasure of vodka is not in the taste but rather in the lack of a taste. Bourbon, on the other hand, is of course, a different story. Most of the flavor of Bourbon is developed by the barrel aging. Bourbon is truly an American flavor that is unique and well recognized. There are as many Bourbon enthusiasts in France as there are Bourbon producers in the US. The Europeans frequently prefer the fine single barrel Bourbons to their own cognacs. And as I learned in France a few months ago, Bourbons is definitely the flavor of choice with fine cognacs.

This is the indispensable guide to selecting and tasting the "spit" mark, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance which could be bought on the market, and the resulting elegance 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The Secret Back Room at the Marriott and a Visit to El Paso
by Joe Lyons

I left myself open for this one. Just a few months ago I mentioned a secret back room at the Pacific Grille in the Ontario Airport Marriott. Now, the new food and beverage manager, John Rocha, came in and took over the "secret" back room. He then converted it into a pasta bar and suggested very strongly that I tell you about it.

The new pasta bar is not complicated or confusing. You start out at the right-hand table with a Caesar salad. This is easy to do in the early stages of the utility crisis. The prime rib comes in a nearly trimmed oval, not the fatty larger pieces that we are used to here. I love good barbecues and I think I have found the best. True, there have been several good ones around here, including Hall's in Upland and the Liberty Bell in Banning. But they are gone now.

There, in March, my brother invited me to El Paso for his daughter's baptism. Her name is Margaret Carroll.) That afternoon, we visited the State Line BBQ. As you enter the State Line, you literally pass from Texas into New Mexico. To add to the confusion, you can see "Olive" Mexican, in front of you, on your left. They explained to me that their parking area is in New Mexico, their liquor license is from New Mexico. The location not withstanding, the food is tremendous. My brother, Chuck, had the ribs and they are at least a foot long. As with many such facilities, this brisket, which usually comes shredded, here is sliced like meatloaf. The chickens have had dog licenses. Even the children's hamburgers could have been a meal in themselves. The prime rib comes cut in a neatly trimmed oval, not the fatty larger pieces that we are used to here.

There are many structures sides that come in a basket and sit out all back morning. You just don't want to eat the potato salad, the macaroni or the cole slaw. Here they are all made on site, fresh. Bread is homemade and all you can eat, of course, but so is the ice cream.

As with so many such facilities, success is overwhelming. They have developed a sense of efficiency, get the guests in and get them served. You may not be able to visit El Paso in the near future, but if you seek good barbecues, you'll wish that you could dine there. The State Line is part of a chain of County Line restaurants that cover Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Colorado. There is none in California where you have to know just how much Parmesan cheese you want. The center shelf in the room are steamed mixed vegetables. They come out just about al dent, which is not easy when they are simply a steamer tray. Next to them are the soups. Usually the soup is minestrone, and it is a good chunky homemade soup. Some restaurants will serve you creamed soup and you can spot these because everything seems to have blended together. Here, everything stands out.

To your left in the secret pasta room are the pastas. They change everyday: pepper, angel hair, tortellini, spaghetti, etc. But the sauces are usually the same, marinara and alfredo. Again, these are made on site and that makes them fresher, tastier.

A final touch is all of the garlic bread you can eat, depending on whether you have to go back to work that day or not.

What kind of lunch buffet you are used to is not going to determine the true value for you. But this is fresh and it is all you-can-eat.

For me, used to be behind the secret door — the deli — that's been moved one door down, towards the work-out room. It has just about everything you would expect to find at a mini-market, except of course, the motor oil.

So have we served you this morning? We have been served here in California, and it is a good chunky steamer tray. Next to them are the pasta dishes. They change everyday: pepper, angel hair, tortellini, spaghetti, etc. But the sauces are usually the same, marinara and alfredo. Again, these are made on site.

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A new Web site, launched by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will increase procurement and networking opportunities for women-owned businesses by placing all contract information at a single online site. WomenBiz.gov will provide women-owned businesses with direct access to Federal Acquisition Sites hosted by various Federal agencies. To access WomenBiz.gov, go to www.womenbiz.gov.

WomenBiz is the official source for finding Federal contracts and modern acquisition sites hosted by various Federal agencies.

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