

KALEIDOSCOPE 2

My kaleidoscope has exploded! Just in the last few days, so many things have crowded in that I think I'm going to go crazy! (Going to? you ask.)

I ask God, "Is this really what's supposed to happen? Are we really supposed to go berserk trying to field all the balls thrown at us? Is this serving and honoring You?" The quick answer is, Of course it is, if it's being obedient to His directives. But so many things all at once? And how can we be sure that we are hearing Him correctly?

Here are some of the things that required attention in just one day:

A new fire tax will be on our next property tax bill because the County Fire Department decided that our

This prompted me to contact that neat lady, Jan McAdams, who got the grant for the solar panels, and ask her to check it out. Boy, did that ever open up Pandora's Box! She has a passion for energy efficiency and has wanted us to enter into a big project of efficiency upgrades ever since we did solar project 3 years ago. So here we go! Wheeeee!

Mitsubishi is going to do their Ride in the Rocks bicycle event on Saturday, November 2, and this year they are going to start the ride here at the store's north lot. This gives them more room to include concessions and other fun stuff. There is an ongoing conversation about the surprisingly many details involved in arranging such an event. Emails here, phone calls there. . .

Recycling has become a major issue in California, because our Masters in Sacramento have made it almost impossible to run a recycling business and make ends meet. (Actually, they've made it almost impossible for ANY business to make ends meet!) Just like forcing us to charge for plastic bags and banning plastic straws, those idiots force their ideological agendas onto us without regard for the effects in real life. So we try to help fight these things using emails that fly like the wind, in the background of the day's immediate demands.

I have mentioned before about the way our wholesaler has been operating since being bought and sold twice in two years. Rather than get any better, they seem to be getting worse. Their website, item catalog, pricing procedures, etc. are terribly designed, requiring much more time to do what used to be simple tasks. When asked for an item, it used to take 2-3 minutes to figure out if, how, and where to get an item. Now it takes 10-15 minutes, since you have to struggle with their non-intuitive links and stupid descriptions on their website. It makes me angry every time I have to use it. So here goes another "background" operation: feeding back to the wholesaler,

hoping to improve things, and on a larger scale, feeling out possibilities to find a new wholesaler who might be more customer friendly. More emails flying all around.

Our annual inventory has to be done in about 5 weeks, a major disruption to the daily routine, and at a time of year that is already complicated by the holidays and all the extra stuff that needs to be done. A whole chain starts with Halloween, then Thanksgiving and Christmas, then New Year's, then the two newest ones (Super Bowl and King of the Hammers in the same week), then Valentine's Day, and finally Easter. All require special merchandise and candy.

Emails, orders, display changes, etc.

Oh, foo! The wholesaler is out of several key Springfield items, causing holes on the shelves, some of them BIG holes. The Special Value Bleach has been out for weeks. SF Oats, SF Brown Sugar, and more, and if we don't figure something out, you are forced to buy the more expensive branded items. Find alternatives if possible! More emails and using that detestable website SV Harbor.

Unbelievably, on top of all of this, I complicated my own life, upsetting it by changing browsers and my private email address so that I minimize any contact with Google. I'm trying to get rid of my Gmail email and changing the browser from Chrome to Firefox. It's amazing how painful and complicated that is! I don't know if you have been paying attention, but Google, YouTube, Facebook and some others are on the hot seat for inserting their Leftist mindset to distort searches and to block or limit conservatives. They also are tracking users and making personal information available to outside entities. I decided that I MUST stop using Google both for principle and to protect myself. This is an added layer of complication when dealing with the kaleidoscope! Bad Linda! Or is it Good Linda, for deciding to do it anyway?

Have I whined enough yet? I haven't even mentioned things like

our looming decision about whether to join up with the local water company or keeping going it alone as we have for 36 years. As State regulations and micromanaging ways increase, it gets scarier and scarier to "go it alone". Good intentions and good practices no longer count for much. If you violate one little iota, as decided by a twenty-something inspector recently out of an indoctrination-factory-university, who has never run a business or produced anything practical in life, you are toast.

I asked God this morning how we should know that this is what He really wants, all this complication and flurry of issues. In particular, the freezer project – finding a place to store them and then the installation – makes me crazy, wondering if God was behind our decision to do it. Are You behind this, Father?

His answer so far: Remember what Gommel used to say. If in doubt, and if it's not clearly evil or bad in some way, SIN BOLDLY. Just do it (no, not that lousy Nike "do it")! And TRUST ME!!!!!!

O-k-a-a-a-y! *Linda Gommel*

Protect Your Wallet From Getting Picked By Another NEW TAX!



taxes aren't high enough to cover their budget shortfall, and their fallback to solve that is your pocketbook. Amazingly, Tom Murphy of the Red Brennan Group, an outfit dedicated to fight that tax on our behalf, came out here all the way from Oceanside to collect signatures on a petition to demand that this new tax go before the voters, according to our state's constitution. This was a sudden decision, and we scrambled to help him.

We got a great deal on new Hussman upright freezers to replace one of the ancient "coffin" freezers that have been here since 1991. We had to buy them quickly to get the deal, but we aren't ready for installation at all, so now we have to figure how to store them for a few months. As I write this, I am going back and forth with emails trying to arrange a trailer to use to store the freezers.

The USDA sent out an email pushing a new grant for rural areas to work on energy efficiency, which includes upgrading old equipment.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

TUES. OCTOBER 1, 5 PM.
at the Senior Center

- "Disaster Preparedness" presentation by Shanna Jensen, Emergency Services Officer San Bernardino County Fire.
- A supplement to Bryan Meder's recent presentation, focusing on key aspects specific to Lucerne Valley's needs and plans.
- Possible results from "Quality of Life" survey.
- Oct. 12 Town Cleanup and Household Hazard Waste collection.
- MWA's potential 'outreach' meetings on how it will deal with increased costs from Department of Water Resources and likely tax increases.
- Announcements.

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 10, starts at 5:30PM.
At the Alternative Education Center,
8560 Aliento Rd up Highway 18.

- Lucerne Valley Market
- "Do it Best" Hardware
- Wash n Shop
- Crossroads Center

e-mail address: Market.Hardware@lucernevalleymarket.com

website: lucernevalleymarket.com

Proud to be a member of Lucerne Valley Chamber of Commerce

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).

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PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY 242-4900

Rancho Drugs – Tues. 11AM, Wed. & Fri. 3PM

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ST. MARY HEALTH VAN
STARTING September 17
the health van will be here
TUESDAYS from 8:30am to 3:30pm.

ON THE PORCHES AT THE STORE

SAT, SUN & WED, Sept. 21, 22 & 25, 7A-Noon, DISPLAY OF BIBLE LITERATURE, by Jehovah's Witnesses.