We Do It All For You!

In last week's ad, Bill Lembright (aka Sir William) wrote his "Bill Sez" column this message:

BILL SEZ... Some of us desert rats left the cities to escape life in the fast lane, with its endless demands and complexities, but some of those demands follow us here and just appear in different forms. Searching for bargains you customers will not likely find anywhere else, considering we don't have the buying power of a national chain, is a challenge.

For example: I doubt you will find 8 oz. butane cartridge ANYWHERE for only \$2.79 or a 4-pack for \$9.99 (which comes to \$2.50 each), or the cook stoves that use these for only \$17.99!

Then there's the Igloo 52 quart hard-sided cooler for only \$39.99 and no, we don't add \$19.99 freight as you might find on the internet!

Lastly, at what super store will you find 10' X 10' Pop-up Canopies for only \$49.99?

Now these DEEPLY discounted bargains are not usually easy to find. It's more like prospecting for gold. And you're not the only ones who benefit from these intense searches. There's a REAL sense of satisfaction that WE receive after a successful hunt for these treasures!

I thought I should get my oar in and let you know how Grocery, Beverage, and Health and Beauty Care departments do the same kind of intense searching for items you need or want. In the case of these food categories, we end up searching for certain basic items that any store like ours should carry, but the supplier doesn't get it and so doesn't carry it. Maybe there is a special item someone needs that we search to find for them, somewhere over the rainbow, it seems at times.

For example, our current wholesaler UNFI, based in Somewhere, East Coast, with grocery operations in Minneapolis, Minnesota, does not carry a good selection of large bags of dry pet foods. They buy and select products for Southern California, both urban and rural, from urban,

midwestern Minneapolis, which appalls me. This desert town, and most rural places, use LARGE bags for their multiple dogs.

In order to get the selection of the large bags of dog food you customers ask for, we have to buy from all over. Sometimes it



comes from Walmart (no kidding!), sometimes from Amazon (but not too much), sometimes from Doit Best Hardware, and sometimes from UNFI, if and when it's in stock there. I have to remember to keep my like Campbell's Country Gravy w/ Sausage, and quite a few Health and Beauty

> Care items, such as Prid Salve, an Echinacea supplement, an acid reducer, pain relievers, and Groom & Clean.

We used to get inexpensive jams and other neat items from Bargain Wholesale, an arm of the 99¢ Only stores, but when those stores went belly up, Bargain Wholesale closed also. We use several other dollar store suppliers to get good deals, but none of them carry food groceries. It's all cheap knickknacks from China, which is somewhat troublesome.

One of the most interesting things we do is to search for items customers specifically request. I haven't always heard of the item, so as a result, I learn a lot. I don't watch television, either, so sometimes I miss new items that make a hit with the public. Our staffers will fill us in with new item info at times.

A few examples of customer requests that come from our little form "Was there anything you wanted that we did not have?":

- Curing salt for beef jerky
- Citronella bar soap
- Chapstick Total Hydration Eucalyptus
- Starbucks Sumatra Blend
- Woodstock Ghost Pepper Sauce
- Goya Pigeon Peas
- Oaxaca Cheese
- Black Rifle Coffee
- Jalapeno Cheetos
- Liquid Glycerin
- Povidone lodine

It gets to be a zoo in the back room as the receivers get to deal with dozens of deliveries every week, which of course includes UPS, FedEx Ground, FedEx Express, and even courier services at times. I have nothing but admiration and appreciation for those of our staff who get interrupted numerous times every day and have to stop to answer that annoying receiving bell, check in whatever was brought in, enter it on the receiving log, and then return to their task, only to be interrupted again in a few minutes.

All of the effort is worth it, as we try to save you time and money, best we can. It's part of what makes this store and our little town special. We

town special. We live and work "way out here" in the middle of nowhere, or as our Chamber of Commerce says, "In the Middle of Everywhere". This is a special place, with many special



LUCERNE VALLEY

BREAKING NEWS! COMMUNITY MEETING!

Today as I write this is Monday, July 15, two days after the attempted assassination of Donald Trump. I hope you were as shocked and horrified as we were. There is no greater indication of the decline of this nation into violence, chaos, and immorality than what happened Saturday and the issues surrounding it.

For instance, why wasn't the building the shooter used secured by the Secret Service? Why wasn't the Trump campaign given the number of Secret Service guys they requested? Why isn't Robert F. Kennedy given Secret Service protection as he campaigns for President? Something's rotten in our current political leadership, it appears!

What can we do about all this? Well, we can get down on our knees and pray!! We can surrender our own lives to Him and secure our personal future with Him. Then we can pray for Donald Trump to repent and surrender to Almighty God through Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit, so at least we'd have a chance at a godly leader for a change. And he needs the humility to acknowledge God as his Boss.

And then, we can pay attention and participate in our more local governments to let our representatives know we care who they are and what they do, and we can offer them our support so they don't feel like they represent phantoms who talk a good game at home but are AWOL when support is needed.

Below is the announcement for the upcoming Lucerne Valley Economic Development Ass'n meeting on Monday, July 29. This meeting will be attended by many of our elected representatives and others of great importance to us locally, God willing. The list of people that will be there is in the announcement below. It is most critical that you attend, hear them, and input to them.

Let them know we're here and we care!! PLEASE COME!!



SPECIAL LVEDA MEETING <u>Monday</u>, <u>July 29th</u>

5:00 pm at the Moose Lodge on Foothill Road, just west of Tradepost Road.

County Sheriff Dicus – "Community Safety" presentation.

Supervisor Dawn Rowe – County/Community news.

State Senator Bogh and State Assemblyman Lackey – State actions affecting our rural communities.

eye on our supply of those items so that I order it before it runs out. This is a real trial for an old bat like myself. Memory for us seniors can be challenging. (I don't feel like a senior....!)

Amazon is our supplier for a number of grocery items customers have asked for,

people working to

make it that way, and best of all, it seems God has a special presence here!

In turbulent, sometimes even dangerous times, you can't ask for more than that!

Tinda Jommel

Reports from our **County, State and Fed**eral Representatives.

Progress reports from **County Sheriff's Department**, **CHP** and **Code Enforcement**.

And much more Lucerne Valley community stuff that is important to **YOU**!

On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web

