Designed For You



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architecture/engineering/site

planning/interiors STUDIOS...

The Green Scene

Ask The Architect

These days people are always looking for ways they can go "green", whether at home or on the job. Film and TV actor, Ed Begley, Jr., has written a book, Living Like Ed, based on his program, "Living with Ed", on the HGTV network. His wife and co-star, Rachelle, offers some helpful advice when furnishing your home or office.

"Buy furniture made from recycled materials. Manufacturers have found ways to take used wood, used metal, and other used materials and transform them into completely new pieces. There're even companies making outdoor garden furniture from recycled plastic lumber."

She explains that even if you don't buy "recycled" material furnishings, you should make sure they are made from natural products. Reducing the plastics in your environment also reduces oil and fuel consumption.

Furniture from "sustainable" wood is best. It is offered by Ikea. Those industrious enough to build their own furniture can purchase the "sustainable" wood at Home Depot or Lowe's.

Carl's Jr. @ McCarran Marketplace

SPOTLIGHT

The newest Las Vegas Carl's Jr. opened on a half-acre pad site at McCarran Marketplace (Eastern and Oquendo). Construction began in November, 2007 on the 3,000 square-foot facility, which will be used as a prototype for their future restaurants. Per Architect Wilson, "It's always a pleasure to assist Steve Larson and his team in bringing his next store to fruition."













SPOTLIGHT

Bill Thorson

The smiling yellow star, the Carl's Jr. trademark, has been a true friend to Bill Thorson, Vice President of Facilities & I.T. at S.L. Investments for many years. This GGWArchitects client has been associated with the Carl's Jr. Restaurants since October, 1979. At that time, Bill worked for the Carl's Jr. Corporate operation, C.K.E. (Carl Karcher Enterprises) with Vice President of Operations, Steve Larson. In 1985, Steve purchased a franchise of the Carl's Jr. restaurants, acquiring 10 existing locations for the Las Vegas area. As President of the new S. L. Investments, he invited Bill to join him, along with many others who'd been part of the corporate operation.

Before Bill was appointed to his present position, he handled "point of sale" activity, responsible for cash register and computer equipment. In 1989, 5 years later, Bill was put in charge of handling all repairs and maintenance for the Carl's Jr. stores. Currently, there are 6 staff members on his team. Along with his manager, the technicians take care of all A/C, plumbing, and electrical equipment. In addition, Bill oversees all new construction and I.T. activity for S. L. Investments. He spends most of his work week out on the field, but he manages to devote 2 to 3 days a week in the office.

Bill, who was born in Sioux City, Iowa and raised from age 2 in Las Vegas, originally planned a career in criminal justice. However, out of respect for concerned family members, he opted to go in another direction. (His sister, however, is a Metro detective.) Bill's Carl's Jr. career has been very rewarding and successful, so he has no

The 29th Carl's Jr. @ McCarran Marketplace just celebrated its Grand Opening 17Mar08. Today the valley boasts almost triple the number of restaurants it had in the '80s. Construction is expected to begin on the Craig & Losee Carl's Jr., another GGWArchitects, CivilWorksInc, and HMHSurveyingInc project, in April for completion in early July. No doubt, business is booming for S. L. Investments. Their goal is to have 50 total valley locations. Many existing stores will receive facelifts, inside and out. In fact, the McCarran Marketplace Carl's Jr. displays the new interior that will be duplicated at all their stores. Free-standing locations will revamp their exterior colors.

GGWArchitects is pleased to have participated in many Carl's Jr. projects through the years. Restaurant #29 is the first Bill has handled, through completion, with GGWArchitects. He appreciated the quality of service. "Mark (Martino) resolved any problems quickly."

We hope to keep taking care of S. L. Investments' project needs for many years to come! We want to help take them to #50!

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