

BRIEFLY IN BUSINESS

Arizona bank moves west

A privately owned Arizona bank is moving to Newport Beach in hopes of working with family-owned companies and small businesses.

April will bring the opening of 1st Heritage Bank, a full-service commercial financial institution at 4675 MacArthur Court. The firm will target mid-sized growth businesses and has appointed Executive Vice President Dan Stewart to oversee operations. Stewart has more than 25 years of experience with the firm, overseeing strategic financial planning for the bank.

The company is the largest privately owned banking institution in the Southwest and is headquartered in Scottsdale, Ariz., with more than 2,000 employees and combined assets of more than \$3.4 billion.

John Laing Homes announces new VP

Newport Beach developer John Laing Homes has named Richard Rodriguez as the new senior vice president of operations and process. Rodriguez will be responsible for refining the purchasing, estimating, construction and warranty operations of Laing's 11 home divisions in California and Colorado.

Rodriguez has more than 11 years of operations experience in the homebuilding industry, including four years with Centex Corp. in Texas. He also served as a commissioned officer with the U.S. Navy SEAL division. He has a bachelor's degree from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis and a master's in business from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

Italian automakers drive through Newport

Ferrari and Maserati are opening a new facility in Newport Beach. The new location brings Maserati to the area for the first time and relocates Ferrari from its Costa Mesa headquarters. An authorized service center on the former site will remain in place.

The new location at Mariner's Mile on Coast Highway parks the dealership among some of the top luxury car sales operations in the country. The 12,000-square-foot facility will sell cars and Ferrari and Maserati merchandise. The facility also holds an audio/visual area with eight 50-inch plasma televisions and the newly developed HoPro entertainment system.

Local lawyer heads journal

Costa Mesa attorney Jeffrey Golden has been appointed editor of the California Bankruptcy Journal.

The journal is a published quarterly by seven bankruptcy forums throughout the state.

Golden is the past president and former secretary and director of the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum and an adjunct professor at UCL.