

Elizabeth's Ad-libs ELIZABETH LEWIS Contributing Writer

Today's products are too convenient I'm not sure whether consumers are getting extremely lazy, or if the people who are responsible for designing new products just think we are — but the proliferation of way-too-convenient products has to stop.

Case in point #1: I am an admitted lip balm junkie, and I have had the worst luck with all the "improved" new improvements these past few months. First, I inadvertently bought a tube marked "with new extra hydrating ingredients" which meant it would moisturize even better than before.

What they failed to advertise was that the "extra hydrating ingredients" made the lip balm feel like someone had just licked the tube. Gross. I used it for a month before it finally ran out, because I am cheap and throwing it away would be wasteful.

Then, not paying attention, I bought two tubes of lip balm that had a flip top. Really convenient, right? Wrong. It would week before the part that held on the lid broke. The lid would always pop off, which led to me always having to scrap off a layer of pocket lint before I could use the stuff. See above paragraph for why I didn't throw it away. I'm being extra careful with the second one.

Case in point #2: Another new product that "rubs me the wrong way" is this new "no-rub" contact solution. I wear contacts and after seeing the product advertised, I called an immediate personal buyout. How lazy do you have to be to not rub your contacts a few times? I can be lazy, but I will never sink that low.

Case in point #3: What is up with pre-iced cookie dough? I can understand buying ready-made cookie dough. Most people (myself included) don't bake very much nowadays, and there is no sense in storing all the ingredients for cookies for the rare occasion you might bake.

Cooking is not meant to be an effortless task. You are supposed to have a sense of satisfaction when the food is done, because you put effort.

See PRODUCTS on G

Elizabeth's Ad-libs... Today's products are too convenient... Elizabeth's Ad-libs... Today's products are too convenient...

SEAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Commentary Don't expect me to bargain

I did not refuse the first offer I got for my old riding mower. It sat in the yard for two days with sale signs on it, and the first person who stopped looked hauled it away. Not being a great haggler or swapper, I immediately accepted the offer of half the price I had posted.

Actually, the day before I sold the old mower I worked on it some, fixing the blade brakes and lubricating the throttle and clock linkages, sort of polking the seat back together, and then moving for about an hour to charge up the battery.

The mower was probably worth more as spare parts than as a usable tool, but it runs great, goes excellent mileage, and sort of cuts grass. Contrary to my rural mountain heritage, I do not enjoy bargaining. The legendary knife, dog, and gun swapping skills of the mountaineers passed me by, and I prefer to go straight to the bottom line. How much?

After the tragedy: what can we do?

Frederick M. Baron and Penny Gold In the wake of the horrendous Sept. 11 national tragedy, many of us have asked, "what can we do to help?" Some have donated blood. All have sent their thoughts and prayers to the victims and their families.

Jack McNeely, Publisher Kim Hamilton News Editor Denver Brown Sports Editor

Head of the Holler Garry Barker Guest Columnist

Whether I'm the buyer or seller, I like a quick decision, one that's fair, one that leaves both sides feeling like a good deal was completed.

As host I got garage space, one riding mower instead of the leftover shaft and bearing, and the set of tire chains I had loaned out.

After the tragedy: what can we do? The U.S. Congress, which was read on both the House and Senate floors.

Jack McNeely, Publisher... News/Advertising Director Kim Hamilton, News Editor... DENVER BROWN, Sports Editor

The Carlsle Mercury 722 W. First Street Morehead, Ky. 40351

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Contingency Fee Attorneys: Things you probably do not know about the law

Frederick M. Baron and Penny Gold On April 19, 1994, six-year-old Sergio Jimenez was ejected out of the rear door of his family's Chrysler minivan during a rollover accident.

Why a trial lawyer? Trial lawyers are a unique type of attorneys. They are not exclusively represent injured victims in civil court cases. Civil tort, or personal injury, law sets the rules that govern a lawyer's expectations of interpersonal conduct.

In the case of the Jimenez family's court fight the judge in the case found that, instead of the company whose negligence caused the injury to the plaintiff as a result of that breach of duty, the company should be held liable. The contingency fee system allowed the Jimenez family to hire a trial lawyer, many of our families are more safe.

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