

Elizabeth's Ad-Libs

ELIZABETH LEWIS

Contributing Writer

Disappointed customer

The weekend before last, I was disappointed by a business blatantly not doing its job.

Maybe had the one employee had a bad attitude — hopefully the following incident is not a regular practice for the business, or they'll end up going out of business! However, my husband and I have decided never to call on their services again.

On Saturday, after visiting another couple we are friends with and helping them move to a new apartment, hubby and I left around 12:30 a.m. and began to travel home.

Our car, which hasn't been very dependable recently (it's new nickname is "Old Unreliable"), predictably died. We coasted into a parking lot and decided to wait the usual 10 or 20 minutes it takes for the car to decide to start again. This time, however, we had to wait two hours.

We decided the Old Unreliable had finally "given up the ghost" and walked to a service station that, thankfully, was open. Hubby called several towing services, and found only one that was open at that hour (now 3 a.m.). The employee who answered obviously did not want to help.

Though we explained we were just across town, and wanted to have our car towed to our home in Clearfield, we were given excuses such as "Walk. I don't know, the guy had to make a long trip today. I hate to bother him" and "At this time of night you'll have to pay cash!"

After explaining there was an ATM in the store, again the same excuse, "Well, I hate to bother him" (whether "he" was). Then finally, the employee said, "Is there anyone else you can call?" and suggested we could call again at 10 a.m., even after we told him we were stranded, with no one else to call.

We got the point — he really, really didn't want to help. Hubby and I discussed walking the several miles back to our friends' home, to our home, or just spending the night in the car and calling another towing service in the morning.

Hubby tried to start the car a few more times, and miraculously, it came back to life. It was being towed, we hurried back home and went to sleep.

Because of this man's See CUSTOMER on 5

Viewpoint

You can't blame the Olympics for taking these security measures...



But we're just watching it on TV...

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Commentary

Farm advice could have stopped Enron ordeal

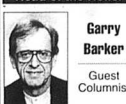
Not being a major player in the world of buying and selling stocks, I didn't know anything about the corporate outlaws of the evil Enron empire.

And, earlier, I didn't suffer when the instant e-commerce companies went belly up, flooding the market with used computer equipment.

Of course, I didn't make anything either. The only stock trading I even begin to understand is the activity in the region's stockyards, where cattle, horses, hogs, and sheep change hands by auction, but I'm sure many of those traders at the stockyard also use their computers and brokers to dabble in the other type of stocks.

Having neither funds for investment nor market expertise, I just sort of watch and wonder. Enron would get a drastic lesson in the old adage of "Don't put all your eggs in one basket," solid farm advice that applies equally

Head of the Hollar



Garry Barker Guest Columnist

"Let the buyer beware." Besides, these days we don't all rely on the horse for traveling and the shyster "horse trader" image has been transferred to most car salesmen.

Some deserve it, used car dealers. The secret is to buy from a dealer with a good local reputation, whether you're shopping for a horse or a Honda.

I once asked a Berco, used vehicle dealer about his strong reputation for selling the best used cars around, and his answer was simple. "I only buy good cars, so I only sell good cars. If I make a mistake I make it good."

It's all about trust, whether you're buying stocks and bonds or hamburger meat and hams.

Honest financial statements and audit reports are the backbone of business, and now there's a spreading concern that other large corporations might emulate Enron by paying off the

auditors. It's way over my head, and all the Enron and Arthur Andersen people are pleading the Fifth Amendment, so the whole truth may never come out.

It's possible that Enron figured they'd bought themselves a president, or at the least a vice president, and could do as they pleased.

Maybe they did. And maybe K-Mart should have made larger campaign contributions. The Democrats are having a ball with the newest scandal, and our Vice President is still refusing to reveal who he met with to plan our national energy policy, no things are about normal in Washington, DC.

The horse traders here play for lots higher stakes than we do around here. Contact the author at garybarker@netscape.net or www.angelfire.com/ky/barker

City & County Officials

CITY OFFICIALS

- Mayor Royce Clark
Council Members Doug Garrett, Tommy Vaughn, Sandy Ritchie, Betty Barton, Charlie Fay, Frankie Hughes

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

- Annette Flora, Charles King, Donna Mattox, Mona Vice, Sherry Uptgraft

COUNTY OFFICIALS

- Judge/Executive Larry Tinchler
County Attorney Donnie Bromagen

Sheriff & Deputy

- Charles King, Clyde Miller, Jailer Billy Mac Gausne

Nicholas County Fire Chief & Emergency Management Director

- Mark Hughes

Magistrate Billy Dixon

- Daryl Stacy

Magistrate Avery Thornburg

- Magistrate Jeff Handolph

Magistrate Steve Hamilton

ON THE RECORD

Nicholas

2/20/02 Robert C. Linville, sentencing, bench warrant.

Dorothy Anne White, arraignment, operating under influence alcohol/drugs, operating on suspended license, no insurance, not guilty plea, pretrial conference February 18.

Ricky Manns, other hearing, contempt hearing February 18.

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Probate hearing, will admitted, order entered.

Estate of Nella P. Maines, will admitted, order entered.

In Re: Kelley Kay Yazell, review, show cause order February 18.

Dean Allison Allen, show cause hearing, paid in full.

April Billman, show cause hearing, bench warrant.

Crystal M. Bowles, show cause hearing, show cause order for balance April 1.

Christopher M. Brewer, show cause hearing, paid.

Jeremy Todd Buswell, show cause hearing, fall to illuminate headlights, on completion of community service, dismissed.

Melissa D. Collins, show cause hearing, review February 18.

Tony W. Curtis, show cause hearing, paid in full.

Denver G. Jolly, show cause hearing, pay \$250 today, show cause order April 1.

Anna Kakkaden, show cause hearing, parent to send child to school, show cause order February 25.

Christopher Mitchell, show cause hearing, paid, community service completed.

Mich Jo Mitchell, show cause hearing, failure to appear.

Julie K. Morris, show cause hearing, balance of jail time to be served, show cause order February 25.

Jenna Abnee, pretrial conference, speeding, no operators license, pretrial conference re-set March 18.

Estate of Russell C. Curtis, review, settlement submitted.

Estate of Elizabeth L. Judge, review, submitted.

Estate of Arnold Thornburg, review, review April 28.

Estate of David Lonnie Farber, review, settlement filed.

Estate of Henry P. Young, review, show cause order April 15.

Estate of Maurice Reid, probate hearing, will admitted, order entered.

Estate of Nella P. Maines, will admitted, order entered.

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Estate of Nella P. Maines, will admitted, order entered.

Arraignment, improper equipment, no operators license, not guilty plea, pretrial conference March 11.

Ray L. Hamilton, arraignment, speeding, show cause order March 25; no insurance, proof, dismissed.

Jeremiah Cole Roberts, arraignment, February 4.

Damon W. Taylor, other hearing, bench warrant, continued 6 months.

Frank Allen Terrell, pretrial conference, disorderly conduct, dismissed.

Victor W. Watkins, pretrial conference, theft by deception, bench warrant.

David D. Watkins, pretrial conference, possession of marijuana, use/possession drug paraphernalia, show cause order February 18.

Brandie Wells, pretrial conference, theft by deception, restitution paid, guilty plea, \$10 and costs, show cause order March 4.

Wayne Wilson, pretrial conference, cattle not to run at large, show cause order March 4.

Estate of Nella P. Maines, probate hearing, will admitted, order entered.

Pedro Puntas Beltran, arraignment, speeding, guilty plea, \$30, no insurance, guilty plea, \$500 and costs, show cause order April 1; no operators license, on presentation of valid license, dismissed.

David Allen Billman, other hearing, bench warrant.

Robert Pierson Boyd, pretrial conference, speeding, fail to wear seatbelt, possession open alcohol container in vehicle, operating

vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, dismissed; license to be in possession, pretrial conference March 11.

Daniel R. Brannard, court trial, hearing, guilty plea, show cause order March 18.

Bruce Buckler, other hearing, criminal mischief, contempt admitted, 30 days in jail, sentencing February 18.

William Bruce Buckler, other hearing, contempt admitted, 30 days in jail, sentencing February 18.

Dustin C. Clark, pretrial conference, reckless driving, operating vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, pretrial conference March 25.

Eddie D. Craycraft, pretrial conference, assault, resisting arrest, alcohol intoxication, prescription in improper container, bench trial April 1.

Joel Diaz, other hearing, no operators license, no insurance, operating vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, possession open alcohol container in vehicle, suppression hearing March.

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