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THE CLIPPER Business Review

Get To Know Your Local El Dorado County Businesses

Edwards A-1 Appliance

Buy or Fix? The Edwards A-1 Appliance Solution



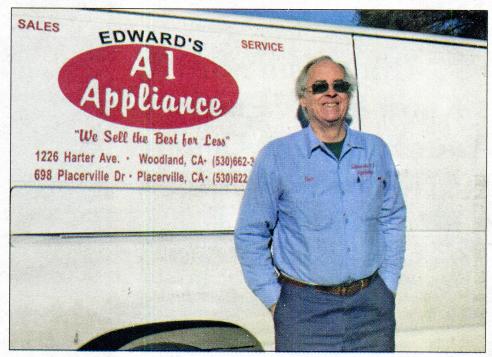
Uh-oh, the clothes dryer is getting louder and losing heat. Do you get it fixed or buy a new one? Big box store or Google? Now, or later?

Here's a clue--do what two generations of foothill residents have done. Call or visit Edwards A-1 Appliance for the straight sc oop on new, refurbished or repair service to washers, dryers, refrigerators and microwaves. You'll find the iconic Edwards building on Placerville Drive east of Home Depot. A nofrills store, the bare plank floor and wellworn service counter suggest you've wandered into a 1950s movie set, but the gleaming rows of new Maytags, Whirlpools. Kitchen-Aid. Amanas, Bosch and GE's tell a very contemporary story.

The warmth and sincerity of the staff is disarmingly genuine and more than a match for those nagging questions you harbor regarding repair-replace for the kitchen and laundry appliances. Owners Don and Pam Stabler always want you to know your real options.

"Why buy a new machine if a repair is a better answer for you," says Don, the life-long appliance guru. "We'll always give you our best opinion."

The highly trained Stabler squad expertly services most brands, and sells mostly new machines, plus a few refurbished units. You can learn a lot about appliances at Edwards A-1, such as How do I select a model that really fits my situation, What are the real differ-



Don Stabler of Edwards A-1 Appliance

ences between brands, How can I extend the products' useful life, and What's the real difference between similar-looking washing machines priced a hundred dollars apart?

Don's niece Katie Stabler can answer any question on any appliance. She waves a friendly greeting from the service counter while handling a phone call regarding product longevity.

"Appliances used to be built for the long run," explained the 12 year veteran of the Placerville store. "But technology has shortened that life cycle pretty much across the board. Computer chips and motherboards produce lots of whizbang extras, but they can also reduce the expected product life." In many case the 20-plus years of projected use has been cut in half. "We can explain the trade-offs in plain English, when it's time to replace a washer or dryer."

She also points put there are different guarantees covering certain vital parts such as the magnetron in a microwave, and the freezer fan in a refrigerator. "Some manufacturers provide better warranty coverage than others for those critical parts. We make certain our customers understand how the guarantees work in each case. It's always good to have that discussion."

In-home service is done promptly and at a reasonable cost. In-store repairs could take a few extra days, depending on the backlog. New or refurbished appliances are delivered quickly and installed professionally by installer/repair technician David Bannister, a 20 year employee, who began in high school.

That's how it works at Edwards A-1 Appliance. The Stabler family, Don, Pam, Becky Clark, and Katie along with

David Bannister produce an balances floor sales traffic environment where appliance issues get solved and customers feel satisfied.

For Don and Pam Stabler it's been a long and fulfilling vertising budgets is not a journey. Don's parents started the appliance business Becky Clark knows why. after WW2 in Woodland, California. The duo split off from the Woodland operation in 1986 in order to buy Ed-

with phone inquiries.

Maintaining a successful profile against large companies with massive adproblem at Edwards. "Exposure in local newspapers including the Clipper brings first-time customers. but word-of-mouth adwards A-1, originally started vertising brings them back.



The showroom with new stove models.

in 1961, and thus made Pla- over and over." Competing Woodland store.

the appliance business. As a dad's appliance store after school where he learned it all firsthand. He still works every facet of the operation. Pam handles financial and administration. Daughter Becky Clark performs in-store repairs, Katie serves custom- And he does it right." ers, and David does in-home installs and repairs.

appliances to Becky. Katie site at edwardsa1.com.

cerville their home. Don's with big box stores is rigorfamily continues with the ous but effective. "We all sell appliances for roughly Not surprisingly, the whole the same prices depending Stabler family was raised in on time of year," offered Becky. "But at Edwards A-1 kid, Don would go to his we offer more attractive installation and delivery terms. It's helpful we're local and have built a great reputation these 30 years. It's also a plus we don't use outside contractors for installations, we have David.

Edwards A-1 Appliance is located at 698 Placerville "The fact is," said Katie, Drive, 95667. Call any "Each of us can do every job team member at 530 522 when needed." David makes 4273. Store hours 8 to up to 8 house calls a day in- 5:30 Monday through Fricluding new installs, while day, and 9 to 3:00 on Satcustomers bring in smaller urday. Check out the web

