

## ***Garage Sale Gal*** **THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC**



***Garage Sale Gal***

### ***Roundup”***

### ***Garage Salers and the “Resale***

***Lynda Hammond***

When Candi White was pregnant with her second child she wanted to save money on baby items so she searched garage sales and on-line classifieds hoping to find great deals. The Gilbert resident was thrilled when she discovered a slightly used crib advertised on Craigslist for \$100. She and her husband, Shawn bought the crib only to discover the manufacturer, Jardine Enterprises, had recalled it due to dangerous defects. “At first I was like, ‘Oh great here we got this crib and it’s been recalled’. It just seemed like it was going to be a big hassle. I didn’t realize it was going to turn out to be a blessing in disguise,” Candi says.

A blessing indeed.

Candi contacted the company and representatives told her to send in all the hardware from the recalled crib. In return she’d receive a *new* one. Just one week later she got a \$300 voucher in the mail to buy a new crib. “Oh, I was excited. Things have been kind of trying due to our finances and when this happened, well, I felt like God was showing us that He provides”.

Candi isn’t alone.

Everyday someone, somewhere buys or sells a baby or toddler item that’s been recalled by the government due to safety hazards. Items included in the recall list go back as far as 16 years—from a portable crib, recalled in 1993 to the more recent recall this year of the Evenflo Envision High Chair. The recalls also include toys, bassinets and even some clothing. This is why the Consumer Products Safety Commission has launched the new initiative known as the “Resale Roundup”. The idea is to keep these things off the streets. If something has been recalled it shouldn’t be resold. So, officials are warning those of us who like to have garage sales to be aware of the potential problem with buying used children’s items. It’s now essentially a crime to sell something on the secondary market that should’ve been exchanged, repaired or thrown away.

While it’s unlikely we’ll be visited by men in suits and sunglasses during our next garage sale the government *is* conducting education seminars and sending out press releases to make sure we are all aware of the dangers of recalled items. The entire second hand market is affected—this includes garage and estate sales, fundraisers and any store, such as Goodwill or the Salvation Army—anyplace that sells used items.

Few of us would intentionally sell something we know is dangerous so, it’s usually an innocent oversight on the part of the buyer or seller. The good news is there’s a fast and easy way to check the items *before* we resell them.

**(Jim, this would make for a good box—if I do say so myself! And the last three sentences can always be cut if you need space.)**

### **Resale Roundup**

The Resale Roundup is an educational push by the Consumer Products Safety Commission involving the resale of unsafe or defective products for children. To determine if you have something that's been recalled—check the Web site: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) for a complete list. You can also visit the manufacturer's site for more details. The procedure on what to do with recalled items varies from company to company. Some replace the item, others send a repair kit.



(picture courtesy: Shawn

White) Candi White and baby, Averi show off their “new” crib. The old one they bought second hand had been recalled due to a defect. The company then sent them a voucher for a new one. “We have not had any problems with it. And we feel really blessed to have received a brand new crib,” Candi tells me.

### **Talk to the Garage Sale Gal!**

---

Do you have a question or comment about garage or estate bargain sales? Email the Garage Sale Gal: [Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com](mailto:Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com).

---

*Lynda Hammond is a former television anchor who left the anchor desk for the love of garage sales. Contact her at [Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com](mailto:Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com). Lynda also does garage sale segments on local TV stations.*

#####