

Community Comment – July 6th, 2015

By Jon Sapper

Justice

Ever heard of the saying, “It’s time for the chickens to come home to roost.” Well, I was driving the other day out of the area and a bit confused as to where to go. Others were suggesting where that might be, but since I’m a member of the “I’m a male don’t give me directions club” I was the one who would decide how to get from point A to point B.

I turned right on this busy road with two lanes going in each direction, divided by two double yellow lines that were separated by a six to eight foot median of pavement. I was in the right hand slow lane. After covering about 100 yards I realized I’d made a mistake with nowhere to turn around. I slowed down, saw that no cars were coming in either direction and made an illegal you turn across my two lanes, across the first double yellow line, across the median, across the second double yellow line and into the lanes headed in the opposite direction.....all the while holding a half-eaten sandwich in one hand. As soon as I straightened out the car, I looked ahead and here is a police car, stopped, facing me about 200 yards ahead. I said, “Oh gosh!”actually it was another word. I knew I was toast. I immediately turned onto a road that was conveniently located on my right. I thought, “He’s going to come after me, so at least it will take some effort. I went 50 yards only to find out it was a dead end into a truck yard with dozens of trucks and trailers. I thought, “Well, I might as well stop and finish my sandwich and watch him drive up.” He didn’t and after five minutes I eased back out to the road only to find the policeman was nowhere to be found. I was pretty cocky because this would have been an expensive ticket...illegal u-turn, crossing double yellow lines, running over a median. I know I shouldn’t have done it, but it was a long way to drive to do it right. How did I dodge that ticket that would have cost me a lot of money? We laughed about it and I said, “I haven’t gotten a ticket in years, even talking on the cell phone when I’m driving.” I have to admit that I do that once in a while, but I’m really careful.....making sure no one’s watching. I told several people, bragging about my good luck.

The very next day driving in Eureka my phone rang while I was driving. I answered it. I was in the middle of telling my good luck story from the day before

when I saw the flashing red lights in my rear view mirror. Uh oh! Yes, I deservedly got a ticket.

I didn't feel quite as cocky. The last few days I've pulled off the side of the road when using my cell phone. The chickens came home to roost.

This has been Jon Sapper for Community Comment.