

Icky assets

Sheriff's office seizes half a ton of dirty diapers

By Ernie Heltsley
The Arizona Daily Star

"We just posted the notice on the door, but we're not going to stand guard on 'em or anything."

So says Sheriff's Sgt. Chris Hoffman about a half-ton load of seized property that's being kept at arm's length.

The shunned seizure: 1,200 pounds of smelly, dirty diapers at the out-of-business Los Niños Diaper Service, 650 E. Ninth St.

An article in yesterday's Arizona Daily Star detailed how Los Niños owner Rex Koningor notified some 400 customers that the business was closing, telling them to keep what diapers they had in their possession, clean or dirty.

Spreading the misery around town that way, it didn't sound so bad.

But now comes news of the giant unlaundered load.

Hoffman, with apparent amusement, was warning people not to remove anything from the premises of the business, including the load of dirty diapers. Hoffman's duty is to preserve assets that may be used to pay off Los Niños' \$2,784.94 delinquent personal property tax bill.

"The sheriff is welcome to all of 'em," said Pima County Treasurer Jim Kirk, whose office prepared the tax bill that caused the collection effort.

In this case, the sheriff's office plans to turn the diapers over to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, where Koningor says he plans to file for liquidation of his company in a few days.

Despite the obvious assets available, the court isn't in any hurry.

"We'll appoint a trustee to determine if there's any equity in the dirty diapers for the estate," spokesman

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Diapers

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Tom Kadotani said half-jokingly.

"The trustee would be assigned by a 'random draw,'" he said.

"The trustee would be assigned to go out and locate any assets and liquidate the perishables," he said, now laughing.

One trustee, in pondering such an assignment, said, "I've had three kids, and I never want to see a dirty diaper again."

Kosinger said the diapers, about the only thing of much potential value left in the plant, are "just sit-

ting there rotting. They'll be good and ripe by the time anything is done with them."

Kosinger said he was confused about the recent events that left him, too broke to wash the diapers.

"It's a whole new learning experience for me," he said, adding that he'd never been in bankruptcy before.

Meanwhile, Angela Soyring, owner of The Next Generation, the only remaining diaper service in Tucson, said she's swamped with calls and has a backlog list of some 200 "poor people that want service."

But she said she can't handle the business until she gets a new supply of diapers.

Condom use issue apparently clouds rape case