The carpeting came from one store; the furniture another; and the appliances yet another.

When my father owned his business, he made it a practice to shop locally and support those who supported his business.

It was a good practice and still is today.

I know it sometimes is more attractive to leave Delphos to shop and there are certain things that just aren't available here. But for the most part, we have a variety of stores from which to choose our goods.

What would you think if you couldn't get anything here? What if there were no grocery store, no florists or restaurants. How about that plumbing part you need late Saturday afternoon? In the time it takes to get ready to go somewhere else, get there, get the part and get home, you could have run up to the local hardware store, got the part, gone home, installed the part and be drinking a cold beverage and watching TV by the time you got home from somewhere else.

Look at it this way. Time is money. If you don't value your time, you must not have enough to do. Come over to my house; I'll put you to work. I never seem to have enough time to do most of the things I need to at home.

I know money is money, too. But if we don't support the ones who support us, who will?

Today is Shop Local Saturday (re: front page story). Shopping locally helps our local economy. When you spend your dollars at an independent, local business, you keep more money here — supporting your community's social services, schools, your public library and local non-profits. According to elephantjournal.com, locally-owned businesses return about 80 percent of each dollar to their community. And each dollar spent at a local business will return up to five times

that amount within your community through city taxes, employees' wages and purchases of materials, supplies and services at other independent businesses.

It only makes sense to shop locally. Local supports local and in this day and age of dwindling state and federal support to emergency and social services and our schools, it is more important than ever.

Now, most of us make purchases at a national store of some sort. But if we just make most of our purchases from businesses that are local, if we make the conscious decision to support our own community, more good things will happen where we live. And where we live is pretty important.

I like it here. Delphos has charm and the people are second to none.

I can remember when Fruehauf went out. My dad was afraid Delphos would dry up and blow away. But we're still here. We persevere.

Times are tough and I have a feeling they are going to get a little worse before they get better.

Let's stick together and see if we can all make it.