

Stock Market Stress

Dear Tim:

It's been three weeks since the big Wall Street bailout, and our economy, the stock market and my retirement account actually look worse. I know this was not a surprise to the smart people, but here's how I look at it: If I loan my brother Jake \$700 to get through a tight spot and pay some bills, I'm expecting once those bills are paid, Jake's not going to be in such a tight spot anymore. Why don't our government and financial institutions work that way?

-Confused on Coventry

Dear Confused:

There you go trying to apply logic to the way our government and the supposed "free market" work. You didn't actually expect these huge companies to pay their bills and get themselves out of their messes with this money, did you? That would be too logical. Instead they're going on state-sponsored retreats for golf and spa treatments. Once they're nice and relaxed,



DEAR TIM

then I'm sure they'll get this whole mess figured out. They were just too tense and stressed out to do it before. The rest of us will just have to deal with the stress by tightening our belts and, perhaps, meditating. We'll do our best to help by continuing to offer you affordable prices on all your groceries, weekly specials to help stretch your dollar even farther, and a friendly smile to brighten your day.

Dear Tim:

Saw you out at the Fall Festival at Fancyburg Park. Thanks for the bubbles for the kids and for the chili samples from all your cook-off contestants. I must say, I'm dying to know who won and where I can get the winning recipes.

-Hot Sauce on Hoxton

Dear Hot Sauce:

Thanks for stopping out. As always, it was a great community event. And I'm pleased to announce that Barbara Reed, Drew Hundley and Liz Neal were this year's winners. While I'm not at liberty to disclose the winners' recipes, I can tell you that you'll find all the ingredients here at Huffman's. That is except for the secret ingredients, which we're more than happy to special order for you. But you'll have to get those out of the chefs. And once they tell you, they might have to kill you. So proceed at your own risk!

Dear Tim is presented as a public service by Tim Huffman, owner of Huffman's Market. Write to him in care of Huffman's Market, 2140 Tremont Center, Upper Arlington, Ohio, 43221, stop by and say hi, or visit www.huffmansmarket.com.