



For Immediate Release

Silent auction helps fund 4-H youth education

West Bend, WI (June 20, 2017) – Most fairgoers know about fair craft exhibits, animal exhibits, food, and rides, but did you know there is also a weeklong silent auction that raises money toward 4-H youth scholarships, educational training, trips, and other programming?

Each year at county fair the Washington County 4-H Leaders Association sponsors this silent auction, which is the second largest fundraiser for Washington County’s 4-H program. Last year’s auction raised over \$5,700.

“The 4-H program offers youth a fantastic outlet for learning a variety of new skills, as well as providing an opportunity for them to develop lifelong leadership and communication skills,” said Andrea Schultz, a 4-H alumni and co-chair of the Washington County 4-H Silent Auction Committee. “The auction serves to offset the cost of programs like leadership camps and trips that help youth build these skills.”

Fair attendees can find the silent auction just inside the Ziegler Building entrance, in a small room off of the main exhibit hall. The auction is open every day of fair, with new items added daily.

“Auction items are donated by local businesses, friends of 4-H, and 4-H families,” said Nicole Kabitzke, a Washington County 4-H Silent Auction Committee member. 4-H Youth Development Educator for the UW-Extension Washington County. “Items received often include a variety of antiques, handmade crafts, gift certificates, sports memorabilia, hunting/fishing equipment, tools, and much more.”

To participate in the auction, shoppers write their name, phone number, and bid amount on a bid sheet for the item that they would like to “win.” The committee encourages bidders to come back often, in case they are outbid and want to make a higher bid.

Final bids are accepted until noon on Sunday, July 30. The committee will notify winners later that afternoon so they can return to the auction before the close of fair to pay for and collect their items.

If you would like to donate an item for the auction, the committee is currently accepting donations. Drop off items prior to fair at the Washington County UW-Extension Office, 333 E. Washington Street, Suite 1200, West Bend. During fair you can leave donations in the 4-H Office located just inside the Ziegler Building entrance.

If you have any questions about making a donation or how to help, contact Schultz at (414)418-3966 or Washingtoncty4hsilentauction@gmail.com.

About Washington County 4-H:

4-H is a community of young people learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. In Washington County, 4-H programs are implemented by the land grant university and the Cooperative Extension System through the Washington County UW-Extension Office.

Learn more about 4-H at <http://washington.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/>.

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