Cumberland Co. Junior Livestock Benefit Auction Set

BETH MILLER Franklin/Adams Co. NEWVILLE (Cumberland Co.) _Cumberland County's 4-H and FFA livestock clubs are facing a new problem and they plan to solve it with an old-fashioned solution.

The problem is a shortage of money.

The solution. FFA and 4-H leaders hope, will be the first-ever Cumberland County Junior Livestock Benefit Auction set for May 30 at the Newville Fairgrounds.

Dozens of useful rare and unusual items will be auctioned

off during the 6 p.m. event. Diane Conaway, a 4-H leader and one of the auction's organizers, said the aim is to raise a vitally-needed \$2,000 to finance the first joint round-up of the

county's 4-H and FFA livestock groups.

Conaway and Bruce Lemmon, an FFA leader, said the sale is staged because two developments have left the local 4-H and FFA groups strapped for money and without their usual opportunity for a round-up.

The first, he said, is a reduction in funding from the state.

On top of that, Conaway said, came the news that there will be no Carlisle Fair this year. The fair is on at least a one-year hiatus because it has lost its spot at the privately-owned Carlisle Fairgrounds.

The 4-H and FFA livestock groups both had held shows during the fair. Because the fair received state Agriculture Department subsidies, much of the cost of those shows was covered, Conaway said. The club members only

had to pay minimal entry fees.

The temporary loss of the fair and its financial support led to the decision to hold the independent round-up, Lemmon and Conaway

Conaway said the idea for the auction was born because FFA and 4-H leaders do not want to have to charge participants expensive entry fees.

A good bankroll from the auction will enable them to keep those fees down, she said.

Donations for the auction were soughts from local businesses especially non-agricultural businesses, to draw the attention to the general public.

Even the most discriminating auction-goer should have no trouble finding something of interest.

Perhaps the rarest item to be bid off the block by auctioneer Rick Foreman is a basketball autographed by Billy Owens, the Carlisle High Shcool basketball star who now is an outstanding rookie with the Golden State Warriors.

For football fans, a football signed by the Washington Redskins will be offered. A baseball signed by Atlanta Braves star Sid Bream, another local boy, should delight lovers of the all-American game.

Race fans won't be forgotten either, since a T-shirt featuring Dwight Leib, Number 22, is among the auction fare as well.

Other unusual items to be sold include a registered LaMancha doe kid, a 50-pound female pig, fly-fishing lessons on the Yellow Breeches Creek, a Chinese brush painting, and a white lace teddy.

Conaway said proceeds from the auction will be added to the \$800 in private cash donations the 4-H and FFA groups already have received to help pay for the joint round-up, which will be held Aug. 10 at the Shippensburg Fairgrounds.

Even with the donation and auction money, the independent round-up will not be as lucrative as the events at the fair, she said.

Winners will get ribbons and trophies. Conaway said, but it is unlikely that there will be enough money to provide premiums.

Still, she said, at lease the youngsters will get the chance to earn some well-deserved recognition for their hard work.

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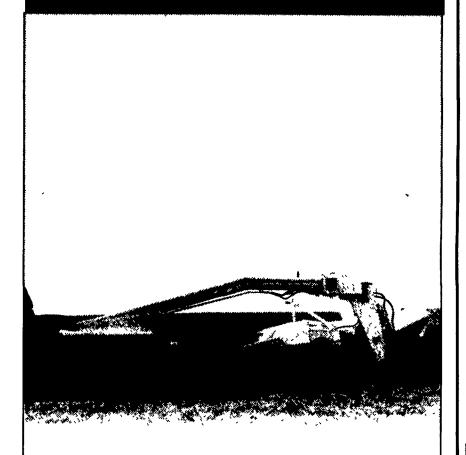
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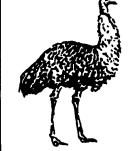
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