

How About Bidding On A Hedgehog?

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
— Interested in purchasing a baby hedgehog?

Then the Lancaster County 4-H Annual Benefit Auction to be held at the Farm and Home Center on Saturday, Feb. 15, is the place to go.

If the hedgehog doesn't entice you to attend this fun-filled auction, there are plenty of other unusual items to pique your interest. How about some emu meat or perhaps some rhea meat? How about bidding on an airplane ride?

Maybe you're faint of heart and wary of sinking your dollars into the unusual. Don't despair. The benefit auction at 1383 Arcadia Road (just off Route 72) in Lancaster has plenty for the traditional auction goer. Cookbooks, tools, restaurant certificates, Winross trucks, toys, wall hangings and a quilt are a few of the traditional offerings. Of course, plenty of food will be available throughout the sale that starts at 9:30 a.m.

The annual auction is the place for 4-H'ers to get set for the upcoming show year. They can purchase top quality show lambs

from prestigious breeders such as George Lewis, Abe Landis, and Steve Landis or hogs donated by Jim Parlett, Henry Holloway, David Holloway, and White Oak Mills. Lead ropes, horse halters, shovels, and similar basics needed by 4-H showmen will go over the auction block.

Yearning for some relaxing entertainment? Bid on tickets for the Fulton Opera House, Dutch Apple Theatre, or the Rainbow Dinner Theater.

Maybe it's just a dinner out that interests you. Plenty of certificates will go the highest bidder for Doc Holliday's Steakhouse, Country Table Restaurant, Kreider Farm Family Restaurant, Hoss's Steak and Sea House, and more.

Garden supplies such as fertilizer, plant food, mulch, wood shavings, hoes and so forth will be sold.

Dr. Zoann Parker, 4-H extension agent, said the funds raised at the annual auction provide 50 percent of the money needed for every major 4-H event held throughout the year for the county's 4,000 members. Monies are used for the purchase of educational materials, entry fees to events, transportation



With the help of Dr. Zoann Parker, 4-H extension agent, Julie Snyder, 16-year-old 4-H Ambassador from Ephrata, displays donated items for the upcoming Lancaster County 4-H Annual Benefit Auction to be held February 15, starting at 9:30 a.m.

costs, and other 4-H expenses. "We want to keep 4-H affordable for all families," said Parker,

who promises to have something for everyone at the auction.

Getting back to the hedgehog, Parker said that the nine-week-old hedgehog makes a wonderful pet for children who are 10 years old and older. Hedgehogs are the latest rage in exotic pets. Since hedgehogs eat catfood and can be housed

in aquariums or a cage with lid, they are considered economical and easy-to-care for pets. They love to be held and cuddled.

For more information or to donate items for the auction, contact the Lancaster County Cooperative Extension office at (717) 394-6851.

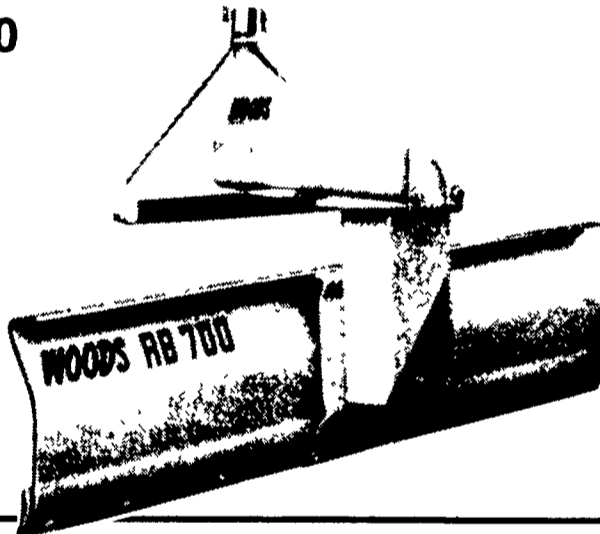
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