



Tyler, 11; Hillary, 9; and Kelsey, 7, are fascinated with the truck their grandfather made for the upcoming benefit action held annually for Manheim Christian Day School. They are the children of Joe and Buelah Snavely, dairy farmers in Manheim.

## Grandfather Builds Trucks To Benefit Grandchildren's School

**LOU ANN GOOD**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
MANHEIM (Lancaster Co.) — For 45 years, Earl Horst milked cows in the New Holland area. During some of those years he ran a truck hauling business. Occasionally he'd think about trying wood-working, but he never had time until he retired in 1992.

Then Horst built a truck—not just any truck—but a Peterbilt one like those he owned. People oohed and awed over it and begged to buy one, but Horst maintains, "I don't take orders and don't sell them."

He might not sell them, but that doesn't mean that you can't buy one of his handcrafted works of art.

Horst has donated one to the Manheim Christian Day School Benefit Sale to be held Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25, at the school located along Rt. 72, one mile north of Manheim square.

"I did it for the grandchildren," Horst said of three of his 14 grandchildren who attend the school.

Horst has previously donated a few to other benefit sales. One went for a bid of \$3,200.

"But don't put that in or it might scare off the bidders," Horst said.

A few of his other donations brought bids such as \$2,200, \$1,800, \$800, and \$270.

Horst makes the truck without any pattern. Although each one is a bit different, Horst said, "I always try to make each one a little bit better, and it gets easier every time."

The wooden van trucks are fashioned from oak and cherry woods, complete with air hoses, handle on

the exhaust, a steering wheel, seats, and beds in the bunk. It takes a lot of painting, sanding, and varnishing until the trucks are finished, but Horst is uncertain how many yours. He said, "I don't get tired of making them. It's not like a job. It's just something that I do whenever I feel like it."

It's the 22nd year for the school benefit auction, which will include a new feature this year. On Friday at 7 p.m., a children's auction will be held by auctioning off students' class projects. The actual auction will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday with Winross trucks to be sold at 8 p.m.

As usual, Ken Stoner will be making his famous chicken barbeque chicken with sales to begin at 3 p.m. In addition to the chicken halves and dinners being available in the school gym, the chicken will also be sold at Manheim's Gazebo on the Square and at Longenecker's Hardware Store.

Soft ice cream with strawberry topping and an assortment of desserts can be purchased to complete the meal.

Art and 30 quilts in both original and traditional designs will be on display Friday evening and sold at the Saturday auction.

Saturday's activities begin with an old-fashioned country breakfast served from 6 to 10 a.m. Auction action begins at 9 a.m.

Some items of interest include handpainted fabric, the Abner Zook 3-dimensional picture, a Windsor infant cradle, antique secretarial desk, and handcrafted bird house from Tennessee.

The Manheim Christian Day School Benefit Auction on April 24-25, will be held at the school located along Rt. 72, 1 mile north of the square. Look for the big tents.

For more information, call the school at (717) 665-4300.

## Life Skills Education

**WEST CHESTER** (Chester Co.) — Agency personnel and volunteers who work with individuals, groups, and families with limited resources should attend the Life Skills Education Training on Wednesday, April 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Penn State Cooperative Extension, Government Services Center, Suite 370, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester

Learn how to teach your clients parenting skills, home

care and cleaning techniques, housing laws and myths, nutrition basics and healthy habits, and money management facts. Instructors for the course are Penn State Extension Agents.

The \$30 registration fee includes a notebook of educational materials and supplemental information organized into mini-lessons for clients. Class size is limited so register early! The registration deadline is April 22.

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