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January 28, 2025

Vol. 48 No.08

ACROSS THE AUCTION BLOCK

Ronald McDonald waved a \$4,400 bid at Stony Ridge

By Nancy Kelly

LEMOYNE, Ohio — Jane and Dan Wilson, owners of Stony Ridge Auction, had a lot to celebrate recently. The old schoolhouse where their company is housed turned 100 years old, and it was the 30th anniversary of their business. What better way to celebrate than with what they described as “Our most unusual auction in the last 30 years”. Prior to the auction day inquiries came in from all over the country and as far away as China and Norway. Held both in person and online, this 430 lot auction exceeded expectations.

With an upraised hand and smiling face, a 6 foot 8 inch tall 1974 Ronald McDonald Fiberglass model by Setmakers, Inc. provided a colorful central figure in the room.



Above: This is one of the pair of 1930s-1940s Brush McCoy Garden frogs. This durable ceramic duo left with a final bid of \$800.

Hand painted and in very good condition, mounted on a green pedestal, it was the top selling item with a final bid of \$4,400.

Joining Ronald, a rare 1970-80s McDonald's Gang Fiberglass wall plaque also made by Setmakers, Inc featured the “Hamburglar”, “Mayor McCheese”, “Captain Crook”, “Officer Big Mac”, and “Grimace”. This wild bunch measured 60 inches wide by 38 inches high and was



Above: A 19th century Black Forest wood eagle hatrack with intricate lifelike detail doubled its pre-auction estimate, finishing with a high bid of \$900.

Right: This smiling 1974 Ronald McDonald Fiberglass model was the top selling item of the day with a final bid of \$4,400.

claimed with a final bid of \$2,500. The auctioneer noted that the original owners were hardcore McDonald's collectors and that there will be many more items in future sales.

A very ornate Wallace Grand Baroque sterling silver 12-piece flatware set also included serving spoons, a ladle, and a meat fork. It was in excel-

See Ronald Page 4



FEATURE

Toiletry sets were the fashionable way to get ready

BY LARRY LEMASTERS

A toilet service is a set of cosmetic utensils and objects used by both men and women at their dressing tables. The modern version of a toi-

let service is the vanity set that is often used in a bathroom.

Collectors reserve the term “toilet service” for large luxury toiletry sets used from the 17th century through the 19th centuries. These large,

toiletry service sets were made of metal, leather, ceramics, gilded silver, sterling silver, and gold. While the contents of these luxury toiletry sets vary, most contained a hand mirror, several small ewers or jugs, candlesticks, boxes, perfume bottles, combs, brushes, and a pincushion that often served as a lid to a box. Nearly all expensive, luxury toiletry service sets came with a travel case, which made them perfect for overnight trips, especially for women.

By the 1900s, expensive toiletry sets gave way to inexpensive sets. These modern sets used Bakelite, plastic, fabric, glass, and even tortoise shell materials. Some but not all of these inexpensive sets came with a



Above: This Cartier 14k gold vanity set, circa 1920s, came with a travel case.

travel case.

The main difference between a toiletry set for men and one for women, in the 1700 and 1800s, was size. Men's service sets were often quite a bit smaller than the larger sets made for women. But whether for man or woman, a toilet service set during the late-Victorian era was



Above: Napoleon Bonaparte gave this Necessaire de voyage, travel kit, to Joséphine in 1810.

the most important bedroom or dressing item. Toilet service sets were given by both husbands and wives as wedding gifts.

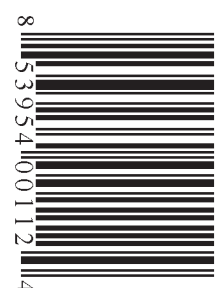
While toilet service sets differed, most had a few pieces in common. For instance, the largest piece in a service was always the mirror. In

the earliest sets, the mirror was often decorated with a family crest such as the mirror created for the Duchess of Dorset's toilet service. By the 18th century, oval mirrors came into use. Dressing tables with built in mirrors

See Toilet set Page 17



Above: Beautiful “ocean aqua” toilet service set, circa 1920, for a lady of means. With seven perfume bottles, this set was offered on eBay for \$675.



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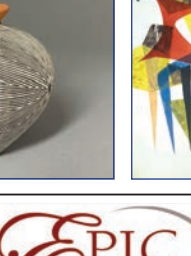
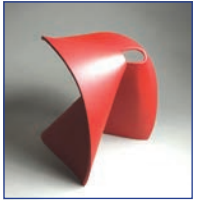
zone web

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TOY & DIE CAST AUCTION

ENTIRE STORE CONTENTS! HUGE AUCTION!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH @ 10AM

LOCATION: 5121 E. MICHIGAN AVE.
DIRECTIONS: Take Michigan Ave (US-12) to Auction. The Auction is West of Clinton MI and East of Brooklyn and Onsted MI. The auction is on the South side of US 12 - look for signs. Tipton is located in the Irish Hills

TIPTON, MI 49287

Highlights Include:

Large Selection of Hot Wheels Old and New - NIP, Race Sets, Displays & Cool Items * Models NOS incl. Mostly Military Aircrafts, Battleships Ships, Vehicles, Figures, Accessories, Model Cars, NASCAR, etc. * Racing Die Cast- NASCAR & NHRA- Various Scales * NASCAR Autographed Memorabilia incl. Racing Suit, Pictures, etc. * Funko Pop Figures NIP incl. Star Wars, Guardians of the Galaxy, Stranger Things, Marvel, etc. * Comics * Model Trains * Nintendo * Harley Davidson * Harbor Lights Figurines * Charles Dickens Department 56 * Barbies * Pez * Large Selection of NOS Beer Taps * & Red Wings Memorabilia incl. Dominic Hasek Game Used Stick * Disney Figurines * Farm & Construction Toys * Vintage Zippo Lighter Display * Gundam Models * Chia Pets * Some NOS Clothing & Boots * Pressed Steel & Tonka Trucks * Name Brand 3D Puzzles * Much More!

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ROBERT FOSTER ESTATE AUCTION

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1 @ 9:30 AM

LOCATION: BARRY COUNTY EXPO CENTER, 1350 N. M-37 HIGHWAY
HASTINGS, MICHIGAN 49058 **zone 4**

This auction will showcase a variety of 150 clocks, including ornate figural clocks, calendar clocks, regulators, and carriage clocks. Additionally, a collection of postcards will be available, featuring Real Photo Postcards (RPPC), portraits, panoramic views, and street scenes. The auction will also include pocket watches, smoking pipes, a store display cane cabinet, Painted china, Salt & Pepper Shakers, German Steins, Slag Glass Lamps, and more.



A 10% buyer's premium will be applied to all personal property sold. This will be an excellent auction. 900 pictures posted on our website. Phone and absentee bidding accepted.



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FIREARM AUCTION

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28TH, 2025 @ 8:00 AM

LOCATION: BARRY COUNTY EXPO CENTER, 1350 N. M-37 HIGHWAY
HASTINGS, MICHIGAN 49058 **zone 4**

We are presently accepting collections and consignments of antique, modern, and collectible firearms for this upcoming auction. Stanton's offer free pickups of collections throughout Michigan, adjoining states and around the country. Whether you have one piece or an entire collection, we would like to speak with you regarding our upcoming event.



A 10% buyers premium will be charged on all items sold.



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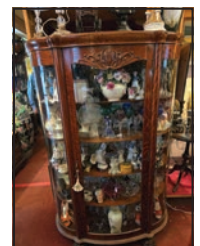
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GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE

Ronald

FROM PAGE 1

lent condition, valued at 94.215 troy ounces with no monograms, it sold for \$3,100.

Stony Ridge Auction offers inhouse shipping for small items, but the larger, heavier pieces require other arrangements. That would include a massive 1905 Koken oak barbershop fixture measuring 88 inches tall and 130 inches wide, the new owners would be able to disassemble it for easier transport. It was claimed with a final bid of \$3,100.



Above: A signed, 22 inch version of the graceful Rolls Royce "Spirit of Ecstasy" hood ornament figure in bronze earned a high bid of \$1,250.



Above: There was a mid-19th century bronze architectural eagle rain/down spout that showed signs of weathering from being attached to the side of a building. This unusual find was claimed for a high bid of \$1,200.



Above: A rare 1970-80s McDonald's Gang Fiberglass wall plaque measured 60 inches wide by 38 inches high and was claimed with a final bid of \$2,500. The auctioneer promised many more McDonald's items in future sales.

Right: Wallace Grand Baroque sterling silver 12-piece flatware set with serving utensils that weighed 94.215 troy ounces sold for \$3,100.



hardware, and crown molding. Measuring 88 inches tall and 130 inches wide, the new owners would be able to disassemble it for easier transport. It was claimed with a final bid of \$3,100.

There were many unusual, decorative objects featured in this auction, from tabletop vases to larger rare items. One of the large pieces was a mother-of-pearl decorated Oriental lacquered wood folding screen. The raised, carved images included lotus blossoms, pagodas, fruit, and hilltop trees. This beautiful, and heavy, room divider measured 71 inches high by 72 inches wide. It was taken to a new home with a final bid of \$2,850. A rare Corticelli 28-drawer spool cabinet was another hefty prize. It was the largest size made by the company and was still outfitted

Right: A 1905 Koken oak barbershop fixture measuring 88 inches tall and 130 inches wide was claimed with a final bid of \$3,100.



with original wood spools of thread, glass front thread drawers, and etched wood drawer fronts labeled "Knitting Silk" and "Silk & Twist". Standing 38 inches tall and 45 inches wide, it was used as a display in large department stores. It found a new job for a high bid of \$750.

A large version of the graceful Rolls Royce "Spirit of Ecstasy" hood ornament figure was mounted on a marble base with her arms outstretched and dress billowing in the wind. She stood 22 inches tall, was made of bronze, and signed by artist Charles Skyes. This attractive collectible earned a high bid of \$1,250. A 19th century Black Forest 14 inch tall by 21 inch long eagle hatrack was carved from a solid piece of wood. The incredible detail included large hooks to hold coats or hats, and lifelike detail in the feathers and claws of the bird, as well as the oak leaves that supported him. Doubling its pre-auction estimate, it finished with a high bid of \$900. Another fun collectible was a pair of 1930-40s Brush McCoy Garden frogs. They measured 9.5 inches and 8.5 inches, and each was decorated with delightful green stripes, large, round eyes, and wide open mouths. This durable ceramic duo left with a final bid of \$800.

Two other outdoor decorations also proved popular. There was a mid-

Right: A rare Corticelli 28-drawer spool cabinet was outfitted with original wood spools of thread, glass front thread drawers, and etched wood drawer fronts. It found a new job for a high bid of \$750.



19th century bronze architectural eagle rain/down spout. This very heavy feature measured 17 inches tall and showed signs of weathering from being attached to the side of a building. An unusual find, it was claimed for a high bid of \$1,200. The zinc mid-19th century 39 inch tall rooster weathervane sported intricate feather detail, a hollow body, and great old patina. It was in amazingly good condition and earned a final bid of \$1,000.

There were many other beautiful and unique items included in this auction, but one more rare showpiece stood out. A framed hair art memorial wreath surrounded a vase of flowers in the center. These Victorian period creations were expertly assembled by stitching the hair with fine wire over a rod that was then formed into a series of loops to resemble flower shapes. Measuring 37 inches tall by 26 inches wide, it was taken with a high bid of \$650.

Visit the Stony Ridge Auction website to learn about upcoming auctions and other services at <http://www.stonyridgeauction.com/>



Above: Framed hair art Victorian period memorial wreath was taken with a high bid of \$650.



The zinc mid-19th century 39 inch tall rooster weathervane was in amazingly good condition and earned a final bid of \$1,000.



Above: This beautiful 72 inch wide Oriental room divider with mother-of-pearl carvings was taken to a new home with a final bid of \$2,850.

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Auction Exchange and Collectors News
Published weekly except one week in December
(51 issues) and mailed every Thursday
ISSN: 0279-0950

Published by MidCountry Media, Inc.
27 N. Jefferson St., PO Box 90
Knightstown, IN 46148

Periodicals postage paid at Knightstown, Indiana
and additional mailing offices.

Subscription price: \$42.00 for one year
\$75.00 for two years; \$104.00 for three years

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FEB. 4.....	TUES., JAN. 28
FEB. 11.....	TUES., FEB. 4
FEB. 18.....	TUES., FEB. 11
FEB. 25.....	TUES., FEB. 18
MARCH 4.....	TUES., FEB. 25
MARCH 11.....	TUES., MARCH 4
MARCH 18.....	TUES., MARCH 11
MARCH 25.....	TUES., MARCH 18
APRIL 1.....	TUES., MARCH 25

**THE AUCTION EXCHANGE
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ZONE MAP**

This zone map is a feature of *The Auction Exchange & Collectors News* and is designed to make it easier for you to locate events throughout the region. You will find the Zone symbol following the city and state in the heading of each ad. This symbol will correspond to the zone map shown here.

UPCOMING AUCTION CALENDAR

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

The Upcoming Auction Calendar is a listing of future Auctions beyond the current week.

Auctioneers: This service is provided at no charge. As with everything - we do our utmost to make sure that your Auction is listed in a timely and accurate fashion.

For our Readership: For more thorough listings contact the Auctioneer personally and tell them where you saw their ad!

ZONE 4

Sat., Feb. 15, Dales Auctioneering Service LLC, Coll., Cars, Parts, *Holland, MI*

Fri., Feb. 28, Stantons Auctioneers, Firearm, *Hastings, MI*

ZONE 5

Sat., Feb. 1, Mel White Auctioneer, Auto, HH, Misc., *Okemos, MI*

Sat., Feb. 8, Burns Auction Company, Gun, *Coldwater, MI*

Thu., Feb. 13, Braun & Helmer Auction Service, Toy & Die Cast, *Tipton, MI*

Sat., Mar. 1, Michael Auction & Realty Service, Real Estate, *Allen, MI*

ZONE 7

Sat., Mar. 1, Kraft Auction Service, Fine & Deco Art, *Valparaiso, IN*

Sun., Mar. 2, Kraft Auction Service, Coin, Currency, Jwlr, *Valparaiso, IN*

ZONE 8

Thu., Feb. 6, Polk Auction Co., Ag, Construction, *New Paris, IN*

ZONE WI

Fri., Feb. 7, Millers Auction Service, 2 Day Advert., Antq., *Tomah, WI*

ZONE WEB

Jan. 21-Jan. 31, Lang Auction, Star Wars, www.hibid.com

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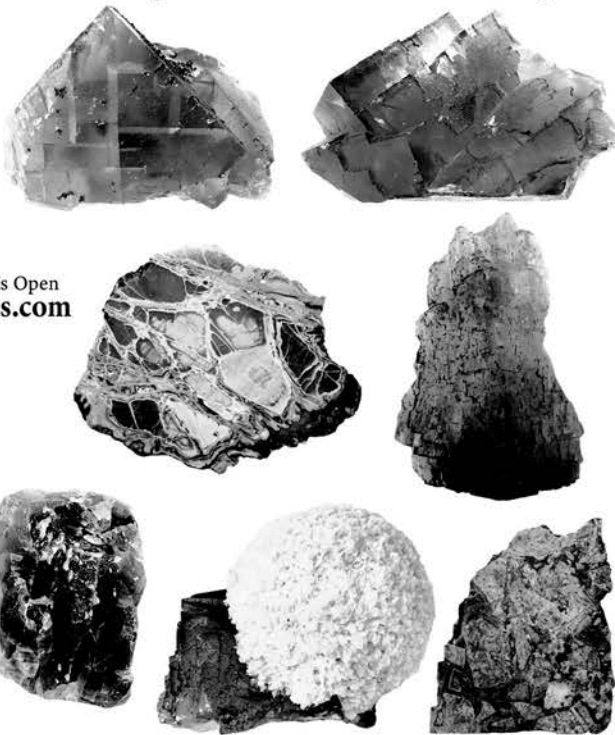
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DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY	TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE 4 MICHIGAN				
Sat., Feb. 1	9:30am	Stantons Auctioneers Hastings, MI	Estate	3
Fri., Feb. 28	8am	Stantons Auctioneers Hastings, MI	Firearm	3
ZONE 5 MICHIGAN				
Sat., Feb. 1	10am	Mel White Auctioneer Okemos, MI	Auto, HH, Misc.	8
Thu., Feb. 13	10am	Braun & Helmer Auct. Tipton, MI	Toy & Die Cast	2
Sat., Mar. 1	11am	Michael Auction Allen, MI	Real Estate	8
ZONE 7 INDIANA				
Jan. 29-Feb. 2	•	Kraft Auction Service Valparaiso, IN	Miscellaneous	9-12
ZONE 8 INDIANA				
Thu., Feb. 6	8:30am	Polk Auction Co. New Paris, IN	Ag, Construction	8
ZONE 9 INDIANA				
Sat., Feb. 8	10am	Rick Gates Frankfort, IN	Antique	8

DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY	TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE 11 INDIANA				
Sat. Feb. 8	9:30am	EDS Auctions Bloomington, IN	Miscellaneous	6
ZONE WISCONSIN				
Feb. 7 & 8	•	Millers Auction Service Tomah, WI	Adv., Antique	17
ZONE WEB				
•	•	Beckort Auctions	Online Sign, Advt.	7
•	•	Brad Neuhart	Online Oil Can, Petroliana	13
•	•	Braun & Helmer	Online Estate	16
•	•	Pioneer	Online Miscellaneous	18
•	•	Steffen Group	Online Closeout	3
•	•	Wegner	Online Miscellaneous	13
Thu., Jan. 30	•	Repocast	Online Truck, Equip.	13
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Auction City	Online Equipment	16
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Rangerbid	Online Forklifts	16
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Repocast	Online Equipment	16
Sat., Feb. 8	10am	Epic	Online Art, Antq., Misc.	2
Thu., Feb. 20	•	Miedema	Online Equipment	13
ZONE CALENDAR				
Every Wed.	9am	Shipshewana	Shipshewana, IN Antique., Misc.	3

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QUALITY SIGN/ADVERTISING AUCTION

225+ LOTS - ONE COLLECTION - SELLS ABSOLUTE

ONLINE AUCTION ENDS FEBRUARY 10

ADDRESS: 1743 IN-135 SW, Corydon, IN 47112

LOCATION: JUST 3 MILES S OF CORYDON OR 12 MILES N OF BRANDENBURG KY! (NEW BECKORT AUCTIONS SHOWROOM!)



INSPECTION: Fri. Feb. 7, 3-5 PM

DETAILS: An outstanding offering of 225+ lots of advertising items that includes: gas/oil, country store, agriculture/farm, automotive, soda fountain, RARE Coca-Cola, pop/soda, ice cream/dairy, railroad, cigarette, etc! Includes: 150+ signs, 30+ thermometers, 20+ advertising clocks, 10+ coin-operated items, gas pumps, pump plates, neons, counter displays, local memorabilia, & 30+ pcs of vintage Coca-Cola items! A huge variety & EXCELLENT condition throughout! An auction you won't want to miss! Visit beckortauctions.com for a complete online detailed catalog with 1500+ photos! All items are on display in our new "Showroom", visit us on Fri Feb 7 3-5 or call for an appointment for a private viewing!



WEEKLY Auction Calendar

The Weekly Auction Calendar is provided as a service for our Advertisers and Readers. We make every effort to ensure accuracy of the calendar but always refer to the complete Ad to verify the Calendar information. Unless specified by the Auctioneer in writing we reserve the right to designate the 'Type' of Auction listing. © INDICATES THE AD APPEARS IN SECTION 2 OF THE PAPER

DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY	TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE 4 MICHIGAN				
Sat., Feb. 1	9:30am	Stantons Auctioneers Hastings, MI	Estate	3
Fri., Feb. 28	8am	Stantons Auctioneers Hastings, MI	Firearm	3
ZONE 5 MICHIGAN				
Sat., Feb. 1	10am	Mel White Auctioneer Okemos, MI	Auto, HH, Misc.	8
Thu., Feb. 13	10am	Braun & Helmer Auct. Tipton, MI	Toy & Die Cast	2
Sat., Mar. 1	11am	Michael Auction Allen, MI	Real Estate	8
ZONE 7 INDIANA				
Jan. 29-Feb. 2	•	Kraft Auction Service Valparaiso, IN	Miscellaneous	9-12
ZONE 8 INDIANA				
Thu., Feb. 6	8:30am	Polk Auction Co. New Paris, IN	Ag, Construction	8
ZONE 9 INDIANA				
Sat., Feb. 8	10am	Rick Gates Frankfort, IN	Antique	8

DATE	TIME	AUCTIONEER/SRV. CITY	TYPE	PAGE/SEC.
ZONE 11 INDIANA				
Sat. Feb. 8	9:30am	EDS Auctions Bloomington, IN	Miscellaneous	6
ZONE WISCONSIN				
Feb. 7 & 8	•	Millers Auction Service Tomah, WI	Adv., Antique	17
ZONE WEB				
•	•	Beckort Auctions Online	Sign, Advt.	7
•	•	Brad Neuhart Online	Oil Can, Petroliana	13
•	•	Braun & Helmer Online	Estate	16
•	•	Pioneer Online	Miscellaneous	18
•	•	Steffen Group Online	Closeout	3
•	•	Wegner Online	Miscellaneous	13
Thu., Jan. 30	•	Repocast Online	Truck, Equip.	13
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Auction City Online	Equipment	16
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Rangerbid Online	Forklifts	16
Tue., Feb. 4	•	Repocast Online	Equipment	16
Sat., Feb. 8	10am	Epic Online	Art, Antq., Misc.	2
Thu., Feb. 20	•	Miedema Online	Equipment	13
ZONE CALENDAR				
Every Wed.	9am	Shipshewana Shipshewana, IN	Antique., Misc.	3

Need to Contact Us?

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BECKORT Auctions LLC

(812) 738 - 9476

beckortauctions.com

LICENSE #AU19800105

ESTATE AUCTION

CONDUCTED BY

MICHAEL AUCTION & REALTY SERVICE, LLC

The Complete Auction, Real Estate & Appraisal Service

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65 HILLSDALE ST.
HILLSDALE, MI 49242
Office: 517-437-7387



JOHN MICHAEL
3RD GENERATION
AUCTIONEER/REALTOR
COLDWATER 517-398-1855

www.michaelauctions.BIZ
Licensed in State of Indiana & Ohio

SATURDAY, MARCH 1 AT 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 1409 N. SOUTH ALLEN RD. **zone 5**
ALLEN, MI 49227

South of US-12 on N. South Allen Rd. to corner of Arkansas & N. South Allen Roads. Please no pets, only ADA certified animals allowed in auction area.

REAL ESTATE

A 4 YEAR OLD Mini home w/1 bedroom, 1 bath, laundry room entry, kitchen/living area entry, a 30X40 pole building for the toys, a new 10X16 garden shed all on 2.86 acres. Real Estate terms: \$10,000.00 non-refundable earnest money deposit down day of auction. Closing within 30 days. Property is being sold with no contingencies on inspections, appraisals, financing or gov't programs of any type or nature. Cash only. A 5% buyers' premium will be added to the purchase price.



Open house is Feb. 2 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.
ESTATE OF RON HARDESTY

STAY ALERT! BE AWARE!
Auction Advertising Is Everywhere!

MIKE POLLARD ESTATE AUCTION

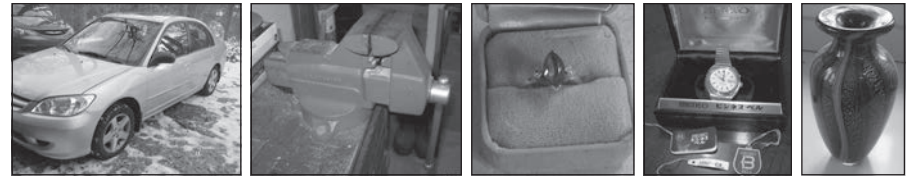
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 4437 MAUMEE DR

DIRECTIONS: 3 blocks west of Okemos Rd. on Mt. Hope to Maumee Dr., or 3 blocks east of Hagadorn Rd. on Mt. Hope to Maumee.

OKEMOS, MICHIGAN 48864 zone 5

The following very clean estate will be sold to the highest bidder:



AUTO: 2004 Honda Civic EX sedan, sun roof, 63k miles (very clean).

OLD THINGS & COLLECTIBLES: Hand blown art glass vase; Tupperware canister set; 14kt Ladies ruby & diamond ring; Calligraphy items; 1928 Duck Pin Tournament trophy (small); 1954 Franklin half; Coalport Bluebird tea cup set; Laboratory flask; Many pcs. Japanese wares, earthenware pots, bird house, vases; Ethan Allen Oriental hand-tied wool rugs (69x108, 92x120, 46x68, 2 throw rugs); Stained glass table lamp; 2 Hand sewn twin quilts; 2 Teakwood desks; Geodes & stones; 2 Cast iron decorative tea kettles; HO Train sets; Cast iron gilt cherub statue; The Jennings Brothers gilt metal clock; Schwinn Le Tour bicycle; Seiko Bell-Matic man's wrist watch #40067-010; Seiko ladies wrist watch; Nishika N800 3-D camera; Glass bead necklace.

HOUSEHOLD: Asst. kitchen wares; Wrought iron & plate glass coffee table; Ethan Allen settee; Swivel rocking chair; Insignia stereo radio; American Drew mahogany dining table w/8 chairs, leaves; Stoneleigh china cabinet; Crystal glassware; 2 Twin beds; La-Z-Boy recliner; 5 Pc Oak bedroom set (no bed); Queen Hollywood bed; 4-4 Drawer file cabinets; 2 Bookcases; Misc. office supplies; Oak trestle dinette table w/4 chairs; Oak glass door curio cabinet; LG 42" LED TV; Oak 6pc living room group.

OTHER ITEMS: Lawn Boy lawn mower; Craftsman 4" bench vise; Old wood lab work bench w/drawers; Assorted hand tools; Asst. yard tools; More items too numerous to list.

TERMS: Cash, check, credit cards. All items will be sold as is. The seller nor the auctioneer will be responsible for accidents day of sale or items after sold.

Sale held outside, dress warm

Gallagher Law Firm

Craig Gerard,
Attorney, Personal
Representative



50 Years Service

Okemos, MI

517-394-3006

E-Mail: melw21588@gmail.com
Web: www.melwhiteauctioneer.com

OUTSTANDING LIVING ESTATE ANTIQUE AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 AT 10 AM

AT Moose Lodge, 2880 E WABASH STREET (S.R. 28 EAST)

FRANKFORT, INDIANA

ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE, AMERICAN BRILLIANT CUT GLASS, FLOW BLUE, BLACK AMERICANA, ORIENTAL CHINA, GUNS AND MUCH MORE!!

ITEMS INCLUDING: SEVERAL ANTIQUE LIGHTED DISPLAY CASES/CABINETS, HUGE ANTIQUE ORIENTAL FAMILLE CANTON ROSE VASE, BEAUTIFUL BRONZE HORSE STATUE, LARGE GRANDFATHER CLOCK, SEVERAL GUNS, ANTIQUE HANGING GRANDMOTHER CLOCK, LARGE COLLECTION OF BLACK AMERICANA PRINTS/ANTIQUES, VINTAGE LAMPS, CHINESE ROSE MEDALLION BOUGH POT (rare)/OTHERS, STAINED GLASS LAMP, LARGE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN BRILLIANT CUT GLASS, HAWKES CUT GLASS ITEMS, 8 GALLON RED WING CROCK, SEVERAL STAFFORDSHIRE HISTORICAL PLATTERS, ANTIQUE FURNITURE/CHAIRS, SEVERAL EARLY 1800'S SUNDERLAND LUSTRE WARE CERAMIC ITEMS, LOTS OF ANTIQUE ORIENTAL VASES/CHINA, SEVERAL FLOW BLUE CHINA PIECES, AMERICAN BRILLIANT CUT GLASS COLOGNE/PERFUME BOTTLES, NICE OLD FLOWERED COUCH/CHAIR, STAFFORDSHIRE COLLECTION, HIGH END CUT GLASS PIECES, HISTORICAL BLUE PLATES, HAVILAND CHINA, SEVERAL STONWARE CROCKS/BOWLS, CARNIVAL GLASS PIECES, LOTS OF OLD PRINTS OF SHIPS/OTHERS, IRONSTONE PIECES, WAGNER ROYAL VIENNA PORTRAIT VASE, COPPER LUSTRE PIECES, MAJOLICA DECORATED PLATES, LITHOGRAPHS, ODD FELLOWS POTTERY, ANTIQUE BUTTER PATS, CROCK NESTING BOWLS, AND MANY MANY BOXES OF THE SAME THAT ARE ALREADY PACKED UP AND WILL BE FANTASTIC SURPRISES!! (Don't miss the preview on Friday, Feb 7 from 11-6pm)

GUN LIST: Hand Guns: Springfield armory 1911 .45 cal, Colt model 1911 .45 cal US Army, 1974 Ruger Blackhawk .45 revolver, Rock Island TCM .22/9mm new in box, Rifles: m-1 .30 cal carbine, Rossi .22 cal rifle, Diamond Back AR 15 .556 cal with scope, New Savage .223 REM w/scope, Marlin model 60 .22 cal rifle, Mosin Nagant sporterized w/scope 7.62 x 52mm rifle, H & R .44 magnum with .357 magnum barrel w/2 scopes rifle, WW2 6.5 cal Japanese Emperors army rifle shot guns; Westernfield 12 gauge w/laser and scope, Sears model 200 12 gauge

"THE RICHARD CARIPO LIVING ESTATE 50 YEAR COLLECTION"
of Hammond, Indiana

THIS IS TRULY A REMARKABLE 50 YEAR COLLECTION OF SOME OF THE FINEST ANTIQUES THAT I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO SELL***DONT MISS THESE 2 SALES ITS ONE OF A LIFETIME***

GO TO AUCTIONZIP.COM AUCTIONEER ID 36006 TO SEE 100'S OF PHOTOS!!

This will be sale 1 of 2 auctions of this large 50 year outstanding antique collection (at the bottom of the picture list i will be posting multiple pictures of pages of the inventory with descriptions and prices paid over the past 50 years of items that will be included in both of these sales) SALE 1 WILL BE FEBRUARY 8 AND SALE 2 WILL BE MARCH 1

All guns will be transferred at Indiana firearms in Lebanon Indiana. There will be a \$15 transfer fee for the first gun and \$10 for each additional.

PREVIEW (at Frankfort Moose Lodge) FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 FROM 11 AM - 6 PM

GATES AUCTIONEER SERVICE
10% BUYERS PREMIUM

RICK GATES AUCTIONEER 765-413-8801 LIC: AU11300098 EMAIL: rgates61@sbcglobal.net
TERMS: CASH, GOOD INDIANA CHECK OR CREDIT CARDS (5% CONVENIENCE FEE FOR USING CARDS) 7% INDIANA SALES TAX WILL BE COLLECTED

CONSIGN NOW!

LATE MODEL AG & CONSTRUCTION AUCTION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025 @ 8:30 AM EST

72435 State Road 15 • New Paris, IN 46553 **Selling 2 RINGS ALL DAY**
So bring a friend!!

Expecting Hundreds of Pieces of Equipment

**TRACTORS • COMBINES • PLANTERS
HAY EQUIPMENT • TILLAGE EQUIPMENT
SKID STEERS • EXCAVATORS • WHEEL LOADERS
COMPACT TRACTORS • DOZERS • MOWERS • ATVs
TRACTOR PARTS • SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT • VEHICLES
SEMI TRUCKS • TRAILERS • SKID STEER ATTACHMENTS
TRACTOR LOADERS • COMBINE HEADS • MANURE SPREADERS
LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT • GRINDER/MIXERS
GRAIN CARTS • GRAVITY WAGONS • AUGERS
...AND MUCH MORE!**

Items pictured may no longer be available on auction day due to potential pre-sale.

Online Bidding Available On:

www.polkauclionlive.com

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No Onsite
Buyer's
Premium



Check our website for most up-to-date information & catalog or call us at 1.877.915.4440 with any questions!

ADVERTISERS

To avoid the unfortunate possibility of not having your ad reach 25,000 potential buyers, confirm that your ad has been received at our office, (888) 339-3795

48th Anniversary

Antique & Collectible Auction

3 Exciting Weekends in 2025

Located at the Kraft Auction Facility - 48 N 450 E • Valparaiso, IN 46383

Weekend #2
January 29th, 30th, 31st, February 1st and 2nd
 Auction Preview: January 27th & 28th 9am-5pm and each auction day starting at 8am

Day 1

January 29th - 10am CST Pop Culture and Sports Memorabilia Auction

Featuring 775+ Lots Including: Sci-Fi Collectibles, Star Wars Collectibles, Pokémon Cards, Sports Cards, 2- Babe Ruth Autographed Books, Autographed Memorabilia, and so much more!

7 Days of Bidding Remaining



Day 2

January 30th - 10am CST Vintage Race Cars and Racing Memorabilia Auction

Featuring 750+ Lots Including: Items from Johnny Rutherford including several racing helmets, Bobby Unser Estate Collectibles, large race car toy collection, original racing uniforms, racing artwork, Indy 500 collectibles, F1 memorabilia, original racing trophies including Paul Newman Indy Car trophy, and so much more!



Local Hotels "Ask for Kraft Auction Service Block for Discount Rate!"
Country Inn and Suites - 219-476-0000

Terms: Cash, all major forms of credit cards, or good check with letter of credit. 3% service fee for credit cards. 7% Indiana sales tax. Buyer's premium of 10% onsite, 15% phone and absentee, and 20% online. ALL VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES HAVE A REDUCED ONLINE BUYERS PREMIUM OF 15% Register with a positive ID. Settlement the day of the sale. Not responsible for accidents or items after being sold. Information announced on the day of sale takes precedence over printed material. *Due to the large amount of fraud related buyer's of gold, silver, fine jewelry and watches we require certified funds from unknown buyers with a buying history from our company. For online buyers we may hold purchases until payment has cleared and verified, unless payment is made by wire transfer and will be released immediately.*

Online Bidding Available at KraftAuctions.com | [liveauctioneers](http://liveauctioneers.com) | [proxibid](http://proxibid.com) | [AuctionZip](http://AuctionZip.com) | [LIVE](http://LIVE.com) | [invaluable](http://invaluable.com)



KraftAuctions.com 219-973-9240 ~ info@kraftauctions.com

- Specialty Auction Managers -

Weekend #1 - Jonathan Kraft, Kyle Dukes, and Mason Chorzempa
Weekend #2 - Jonathan Kraft and Connor Wolfe
Weekend #3 - Jonathan Kraft and Bruce Turner

Please contact any of our auction managers about your consignments today!

- Auctioneers -
Col. Conrad Kraft • AU01023657

Jonathan Kraft
IN-AU10500173 | IL 441.001494
Del Harper • AU01028908
John Beechy • AU10900099
Jarron Miller • AU1300004
Kyle Stepnoski • AU11400033
Connor Wolfe • AU12300004

Mason Chorzempa • AU12300012

Turn the page for more!

48th Anniversary

Antique & Collectible Auction

Located at the Kraft Auction Facility - 48 N 450 E - Valparaiso, IN 46383

Weekend #2

January 29th, 30th, 31st, February 1st and 2nd

Auction Preview: January 27th & 28th 9am-5pm and each auction day starting at 8am

Day 3

January 31st - 10am CST

Premier Antique and Vintage Toy Auction

Featuring 1100+ Lots Including: The Paul Link "Arcade" Toy Collection including many rare and seldom seen Arcade cast iron toys including the Brinks Express Truck and the City Bus Terminal; 100's of Pressed Steel Trucks by Buddy L, American National, Smith-Miller, Fred Thompson, Kelmet, Sonny, Steelcraft, Keystone, King K, Retro 123, Buffalo Commons, All American, Sturditoy, Les Paul, Burdette Murray, Turner and more; Outdoor Trains; Pedal Cars; Outstanding Collection of Ken Swingle Customs; Collection of Boxed and Original Tonka Trucks; Tin Wind-ups; Popeye Collection; Assorted French and German Toys; Lunchboxes; Collection of Red Line Hot Wheels; and much more!



Day 4

February 1st - 9am CST

Collector Car, Vintage Motorcycle and Premier Pedal Car Auction

200 Premier Pedal Cars Starting at 9:00am

Electric Pedal Cars including only know electric pick-up truck; American National, Gendron, Steelcraft, Garton, and more; G-Man Cruiser; Original Garton Tank; Best Known Original Cat Dozer; Great Selection of One of a Kind Customs including American National Packard Coupe, Packard Roadster, Coca-Cola Delivery Trucks, and more; Boats; Airplanes; Tow Trucks; Tandems; Austin J-40; Trains; Fire Trucks; Wells Fargo Wagon Stagecoach; Great Selection of All Original Pedals; Race Cars; and many more!



30+ Unique Custom Neon Signs



40+ Motorcycles - Golf-Carts - Kid Cars (Starting at Approximately 11:30am)

Fully Restored 1911 Sears Auto-Cycle; 1914-1924 Triumph LW; 1915 Harley-Davidson; 1942 Harley-Davidson WLC; 1958 Harley-Davidson Duo-Glide; 1957 Harley-Davidson Police Trike; 1961 Harley-Davidson Topper AH Scootaway w/Sidecar; 1964 Triumph Bonneville T120R; 1959 Giulietta Super Sport; 1959 Atala 'Freccia d'Oro'; 1961 Moto Guzzi Lodola Gran Turismo; 1971 Harley-Davidson Superglide; 2000 Harley-Davidson Road King FLHRCI w/ Sidecar; 2016 Polaris Slingshot SL; Honda 50; 2- Honda 70's; Honda 3-Wheeler; Selection of Cushman Scooters; Jurassic Park Gas Powered Jeep; 1980s Winner Ayrton Senna Lotus 99T-Style Go-Kart; 1946 Electrobug Futuristic Go-Kart; Ferrero Le Man's Children's Car; 2- Brand New 6-Seater Golf Carts; 2- Brand New 4 Seater Golf Cart; Brand New 2023 Kawasaki Terx 4 Side x Side; and much more.



Outdoor Train - Hearse Airplane - Boat - Tractor

Unique Custom Outdoor 18" Train Set w/2 Locomotives, Cars and Track; Horse-Drawn Winter Hearse; Restored John Deere AR; Wichawk Experimental Bi-Plane; and a 20' 1964 Chris-Craft Super Sport Wood Boat



260+ Antique, Vintage and Modern Cars and Trucks (Cars will start at Approx. 12:30pm)

Highlights include: 1917 Detroit Electric Model 68B Brougham; 1930 Lincoln Model L Sport Touring; 1924 Packard Single Eight Touring; 1928 LaSalle Series 303 Sport Roadster; 1929 Chrysler Model 75 Dual Cowl Phaeton; 1935 LaSalle Series 50 Coupe Convertible; 1937 Packard 1502 Super Eight Town Car; 1936 Packard Twelve 1407 Formal Sedan; 1936 Ford Convertible; 1941 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible; 2009 Ford Shelby GT500 KR Coupe; 2011 Chevrolet Camaro SS Convertible - 6 Speed; 2005 Pontiac GTO, 1900 miles; 2004 Chevrolet SSR; 1967 Chevrolet Impala Convertible; 1966 Oldsmobile 442; 1956 Dodge Coronet Convertible; 1965 Chevrolet Impala Station Wagon 409 V8; 1957 Plymouth Fury; 1959 Chevrolet Apache Pickup Resto-Mod; 1971 Volkswagen Transporter Van; 1948 Willy's Overland Convertible; 1955 Ford F-100 Custom; 1938 Custom Chevrolet Coupe; 1967 Dodge Coronet R/T; 1968 Chevrolet Camaro 327 Convertible; 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air Custom; 1957 Continental Mark II; 1969 Plymouth Road Runner; 1970 Plymouth GTX; 1971 Plymouth Road Runner GTX; 1967 Ford Mustang Custom Coupe "Over \$150,000 spent on the build of this car!"; 1969 Mercury Cougar XR-7 Convertible; 1969 Pontiac GTO Convertible; 1962 Chevrolet Corvette; 1969 Jaguar Series 2 XKE Coupe; 1963 Porsche 356B Cabriolet; 1971 Porsche 911 T Targa; 1958 Taylor-Dunn Trident; 1939 Fiat 500 A Topolino Trasformabile; 1966 Chevrolet Caprice; 1971 Buick Skylark; 98 Stewart & Stevenson M1078 LMTV 4x4 Cargo Truck; 1955 Chevrolet 210 Station Wagon; 1951 Mercury 2-Door Custom Sedan; 10- Ford Model A's; and many more...



Nearly 200 Cars being offered at **NO RESERVE!**

Turn the page for more Day 4

48th Anniversary *Antique & Collectible Auction*

Weekend #2 · January 29th, 30th, 31st, February 1st and 2nd

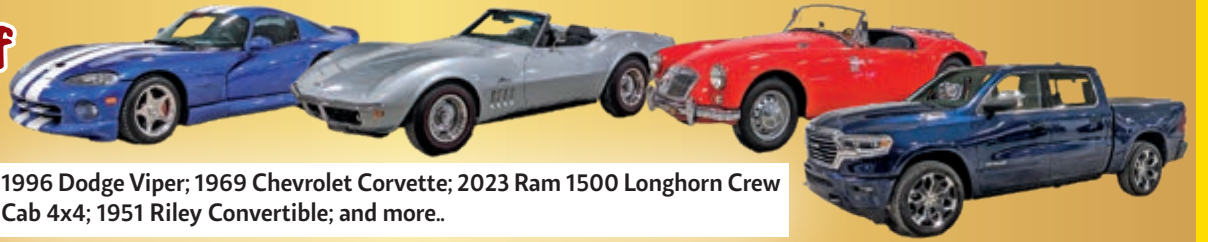
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Valparaiso, IN 46383

Anniversary

Day 4

Hall Collection of Florida Offered at No Reserve



1996 Dodge Viper; 1969 Chevrolet Corvette; 2023 Ram 1500 Longhorn Crew Cab 4x4; 1951 Riley Convertible; and more..

Including 120 Cars from the Country Classic Cars Collection Being Offered at No Reserve!

Highlights include: 1968 Chevrolet Malibu SS 396; 1973 Dodge Challenger; 1970 Ford Mustang Convertible; 1979 Pontiac Trans Am; 1950 Ford Custom Street Rod; 2022 Alfa Romeo Giulia Q2; Great Selection of Corvettes; 2023 Dodge Charger Scat Pack; 1999 Mitsubishi Eclipse "Fast and the Furious Tribute"; 2011 Mercedes Benz G 550; 1982 Chevrolet Blazer K5 Custom; 1965 Chevrolet C10; 1965 GMC C10; 2006 Porsche Boxster; 1971 Porsche 914; 1965 Oldsmobile Starfire Convertible; 1960 Mercury Comet; 1963 Cadillac Sedan Deville; and more...



40+ Cars Located at Country Classic Cars in Staunton, IL

Open House January 27th 10am-4pm

Highlights include: 1942 Ford Wrecker Service Truck; 1949 GMC 250 Adobe Factory Pickup; 1974 International 100 Pickup; 1971 International 110 Pickup; 3- Corvettes; 1959 Plymouth Belvedere; 1949 Cadillac Coupe; 1964 Dodge Dart Convertible; 1964 Pontiac Grand Prix; 1960 Chevrolet Bel Air; 1912 Ford Model T Coupe; 1947 Cadillac Fleetwood Sedan; 1951 Buick Special; and so many more...



Day 5

February 2nd - 10am CST Premier Vintage Advertising and Memorabilia Auction

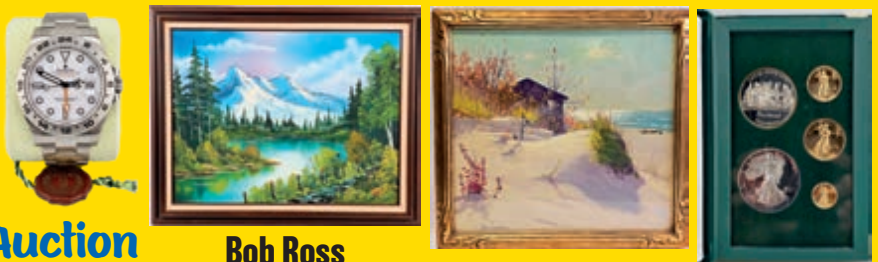
1250+ Lots Featuring an Outstanding Bicycle Collection including a factory mint Grey Ghost and 20+ muscle bikes; Pedal Cars; Coin-Op Kiddie Rides; 2- H.C. Evans Gambling Wheels; McDonald's Collectibles; M&M Collectibles; Life-Size Movie Prop Statues; Snap-On 50th Anniversary Ford Mustang Work-Center; Street Lights; Telephone Booth; Selection of Restored and Original Gas Pumps; Gas Globes; Nice Selection of Gas and Oil Signs include Left and Right Mobil Cookie Cutters; Selection of 30" and 42" Porcelain Signs; 5' and 6' Flying A signs; 6ft Early SST Smaltz Goodyear Tires; 6ft Early SST Burgemeister Beer Baseball Sign; Studebaker Double Sided Lighted Dealership Sign; 2- Large Ford Porcelain Dealership Signs; Vintage and Contemporary Neon Signs; Nice Selection of Soda Pop Signs including 5ft 1930s DSP Coca-Cola Fountain Service Sign; Great Collection of Railroad Signs and Collectibles including 4-1/2" Gauge Pennsylvania 4-4-0 Live Steam Engine; Collection of Harley-Davidson Memorabilia and Parts; 2 Pairs of 1916-1923 Harley-Davidson JD Motorcycle Tanks; Early Oil Cans; Selection of Slot Machines; Pin-ball Machines; Large Advertising Clock Collection; Arcade Games; Farm Signs and Collectibles; Country Store; Hamm's Beer Signs; Gumball Vending Machine Collection; and so much more...



Weekend #3 March 1st and 2nd - 10am CST Auction Preview: February 27th & 28th 9am-5pm and each auction day starting at 8am

March 1st - 10am CST Fine & Decorative Arts Auction

March 2nd - 10am CST Coins, Currency, Bullion, Watches and Fine Jewelry Auction



Bob Ross

KRAFT AUCTION SERVICE LLC
IN-AC30900120
IL Lic #444.000541

IAA INDIANA AUCTION ASSOCIATION
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OAA OHIO AUCTIONEER ASSOCIATION

KraftAuctions.com

Physician & Outdoor Enthusiast Moving On-Line Auction



Register & Bid at HiBid.com



Auction opens: Thursday, January 22nd
Auction closes: Wednesday, January 28th
Pickup: Freeland pickup January 29th 12-5 pm
OR January 30th from 9-12

Auction Highlights: Ludwig Baby Grand Piano - very nice condition • Quality built well cared for home furnishings inc. dining rom & bedroom set as well as sofas, tables, stools, etc. • Cub Cadet XT2 Enduro Series LX42 lawn tractor, like new - 2022 • Pair. Star Trac TRC Premium treadmills • Benelli & Tristar Viper shotguns • Nice Newfoundland Caribou mount • Qty. wooden decorative duck & goose decoys • Qty. of Ltd. Edition framed wildlife & outdoor prints • Nice home decoratives & accent pieces



See website for listing & photos

WEGNER AUCTIONEERS
 (989) 793-8689 • wegnerauctioneers.com

LIQUIDATION OF ASSETS OF JMC ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, LLC ONLINE AUCTION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30 | ORTONVILLE, MI



- (2) 2021 Chevy Express 2500 Cargo Van
- (3) 2021 Chevy Silverado 1500 Custom
- 2021 Ford F-250 Super Duty STX Supercab
- (2) 2021 GMC Savana G2500 Cargo Van
- 2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Custom
- 2020 Ford Transit Cargo Van 250
- Nissan KCPH02A25PV Forklift
- Yale GLP050RG EUAE086 Forklift
- Generators
- Electrical Equipment
- Shop Tools
- Office Equipment
- Plus Much More**



MIEDEMA'S REPOCAST

VIEW ALL ITEMS IN DETAIL AND/OR BID AT REPOCAST.COM OR CALL OUR OFFICE AT 616-261-4988

ANTIQUE, OIL CAN & PETROLIANA AUCTION

Bidding Ends Monday February 3, 2025 @ 7pm eastern
 See pics, info, register & BID at: www.bradneuhart.com
 Items located at our auction facility - 12544 Carpenter Rd. Milan, MI 48160

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Brad Neuhart Auctioneers are proud to have been selected to offer this fantastic antique and petroliana collection at ONLINE ONLY public auction. From small oilers and 2 gallon cans to vintage bubble gum machines and beautiful vintage furniture, there are some great hard to find pieces in this sale. DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADD SOME FANTASTIC ANTIQUES and PETROLIANA TO YOUR COLLECTION. Bidding will open on Saturday 1/18/25 and go through MONDAY 2/3/25 with items beginning to close at 7pm eastern time. We offer in-house shipping through Shipping Saint on most items or you may pickup your items on 2/5/25 from 11am-6pm. Items can be viewed in person on Friday 1/31/25 from 12pm - 6pm at 12544 Carpenter Rd. Milan, MI 48160. See www.bradneuhart.com for pics & info.

BRAD NEUHART AUCTIONEERS
 REAL ESTATE BROKERS
 (734) 439 - 7939
www.bradneuhart.com

TERMS: 6% Sales Tax. Cash or acceptable check. 10% Buyer's Premium. See website for full terms.

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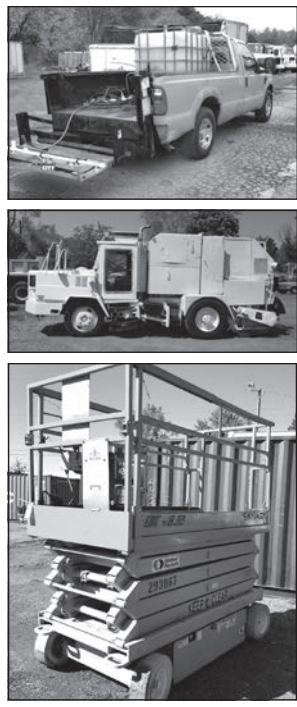

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FROM PAGE 1

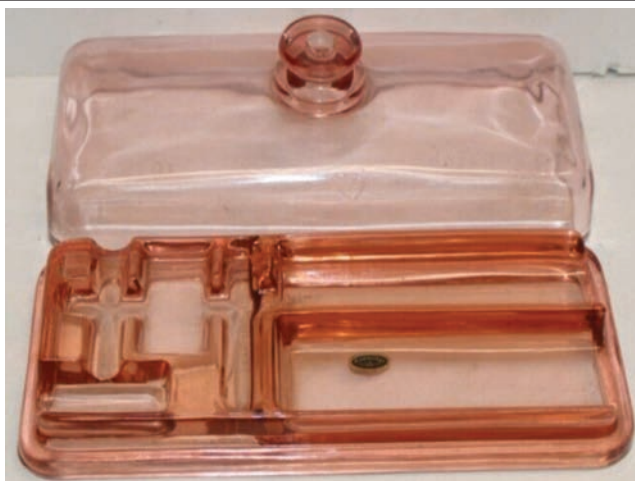
helped lead to the decline in toilet service sets, and by the late 19th century, a handheld mirror was included in most vanity sets.

Since toilet service sets served women in the 17th and 18th century, candlesticks often accompanied services so that women's faces could be lit. Candles, then as now, took on many names. Found in different toiletry services were chamber candles, chamber sticks, and hand candles. Hand candles had a wide base and finger hole, and they were

literally the candles a woman used to find her way to bed.

Professional silver-smiths cast beautiful sterling silver or gold candlesticks for the most expensive toilet service sets, so expect to find two candlesticks in the oldest, most expensive sets. Also expect to find a jug and basin for washing one's face and at least one hairbrush and one or two combs. Also found in service sets are soapboxes and glove trays. Some of the finest toilet service sets also include a service bell that was used to call the attention of a servant.

Although some service kits contain cutlery and



Above: This peach-blo glass Cambridge "Sani Shaving Service" was designed for men. Wilbur Orme, the vice-president of Cambridge Glass in New York City, designed this service set in 1927.

bowls for snacking, most bowls found in toilet service sets are for cosmetic use, such as a large "oat-



Above: Sackville toilet service on display in the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

meal" bowl that allows a mixture of oatmeal to be prepared as a facial mask. One of the most extensive toilet service sets known is the Schenk von

Stauffenberg set on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Made in Germany in the 1740s, this 48-piece service set includes a teapot and inkstand with quill.

Men's toilet service sets include a shaving bowl, jug, basin, and razor. Many men's sets also include a toothbrush, toothpaste, and tongue-scraper for removing debris and dead cells from one's tongue.

Men's toiletry service sets may be very expensive to collect. A Hermès International men's leather, traveling toiletry service set, which was made in France in the 1940s is valued at \$9,850. This is not surprising since Hermès has catered to the elite of Europe since its founding in 1837.

In the 1600s vanity tables, such as those of the early 20th century, became popular when wealthy patrons commissioned "vanity" tables so their toiletry service could be laid out on a permanent basis. The items laid on a vanity table soon became known as vanity sets, leaving the more formal toiletry service behind. Markets for vanity sets continued for the next 250 years until, just prior to World War II, the market for vanity sets in the United States all but disappeared. Simplified hairstyles and changes in lifestyles made such ornate toiletry services or vanity sets obsolete. Today these service sets provide windows into history and live on in museums and collections where women stare at them and wonder of the complexity of "painting on one's face" in bygone days.



Above: This lady's Art Deco travel vanity set, circa 1920s, with original green case is valued at \$100.

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Witco offered mid-century decor with an exotic twist

BY WILLIAM FLOOD

Known for its imaginative forms, bold use of natural wood, and vibrant colors, Witco furnishings and decor hold a special place for collectors of retro and in particular tiki goods. Begun on the West Coast in the late 1950s, Witco offered a standout from the austere geometric lines that defined much of mid-century design. In contrast, the company's home decor offered fluidity and exotic motifs, eventually gaining fame for their South Seas-influenced creations.

In 1958, Robert Post, Jr., and his colleague, Robert Cookson, opened a small importing company named Western International Trading Company (now known as Witco) in Washington State. They started by importing art, sculpture, and interior items like seashell lamps from places like Central and South America, offering a touch of the globally inspired to everyday life.

Meanwhile, Robert Post's cousin William Westenhover — who would later become president and arguably the heart of Witco — was living two states away. A gifted artist and woodcarver, Westenhover was shaped by his upbringing in the coastal town of Huntington Beach, California. He enlisted in the Navy at 17 and served in the Pacific during World War II. Afterward, he used the GI Bill to study art at the LA Art Center. It was during this time that he became captivated by Polynesian and Oceanic art. His studio was a blend of influences, featuring modernist art books on figures like Matisse and Picasso, alongside volumes on South Seas art and numerous National Geo-



Above: This tiki bar, complete with original stools was recently available, priced at \$5,500.

graphics that focused on primitive societies. Inspired by the exotic, Westenhover frequently experimented with carving masks and sculptures, often emulating pieces that fascinated him. He soon began experimenting with the bold chainsaw carvings that would later define their work.

Eventually, Westenhover relocated his family to Skagit County, Washington, where he joined his cousin at the import company. However, his true passion remained in creating carved objects. Soon after joining the company, he proposed that they start producing their own island-inspired wood carvings, a move that would shape the company's future direction.

Westenhover's vision grew from craft items to a line of home furnishings that would bring the captivating spirit of faraway places into everyday living. After a successful debut at a furniture and design show in Los Angeles, their carved wood creations quickly gained popularity. Spurred by the growing demand, they relocated to a larger production facility in Mt. Vernon, Washington, where it would remain throughout its operation.

This was when the Polynesian Popular

style was gaining momentum, appearing in everything from restaurants to home bars. It wasn't long before Witco became known for its tiki-themed furnishings. The trend reached new heights after Hawaii's statehood in 1959, and the firm's artists were eager to help consumers transform their home and work spaces into tropical havens.

Witco's designs were bold and unconventional, sometimes labeled as Pop Primitivism. They represented an offshoot of a mid-twentieth-century artistic movement known as "brutalism," championed by Swiss architect Le Corbusier. Brutalism emphasized a heavy, raw aesthetic, often using rough or distressed materials, which Witco embraced.

The company's lineup was expansive, offering everything from lamps and wall hangings to bars, chairs, and couches. Wood played a central role, and the artists often carved with chainsaws hung with pulleys to counterbalance their weight. While they worked with various woods, including cypress and teak, their go-to material was Western red cedar, which was soft, easily carved, and had a grain that lent itself to Witco's signature handcrafted look. Wood elements were often treated with burning and waxing techniques to either highlight the natural grain or create an exaggerated faux grain. The result was bold, rough carvings that often mimicked primitive craftsmanship.

Products were frequently decorated with tropical motifs, bright colors, and animal prints. While Oceanic themes were prominent, the company also explored a variety of other genres, including geometric patterns, as well as Medieval and Mediterranean aesthetics. Figures like chess pieces, conquistadors, dragons, and giant swords made regular

appearances. Witco's innovative approach caught the attention of other manufacturers, notably Lane, which began to mimic similar concepts.

The company's eye-catching wares proved to be conversation starters and offered a striking contrast to the minimalist, jet-age lines and materials so common during the post-war decades. The look quickly gained popularity among celebrities and jet-setters, including figures like Hugh Hefner and Elvis Presley, who filled his famous Jungle Room heavily with Witco.

Witco hit the peak of its popularity in the late 1960s, selling over \$15 million worth of products worldwide while remaining a family-run business. However, by the 1970s, tiki style had fallen out of favor, and the company shuttered.



Above: Elvis Presley's Jungle Room at Graceland in Memphis was filled with Witco, including a Polynesian-inspired bar. (Photo: Wikimedia Commons)

Westenhover continued creating carvings on a smaller scale for two more decades. In 1978, he co-authored *Fun and Profitable Chainsaw Carving* with Ron Hovde under the WestHo Publishing brand. In the 1990s, Westenhover passed on his carving techniques to his granddaughter and her husband, who have maintained the company's trademark and copyrights. Through their business, Pleasant Tiki, they provide Witco designs to venues such as Disney resorts and modern tiki bars. The brand experienced a resurgence in the early 2000s, largely fueled by Sven A. Kirsten's groundbreaking book "Tiki Modern," which dedicated a significant section to the brand. Witco's iconic approach continues to inspire new artists, now contributing to the ongoing tiki revival.

With its renewed popularity, there's a new

audience of eager Witco collectors. The items most closely associated with tiki culture, especially those linked to the cocktail scene, are particularly popular. Among these, the tiki bars from the 1960s stand out. Made from teak and adorned with Oceanic imagery on its front and sides, this bar can fetch up to \$3,000 when paired with its stools. Lamps are also in high demand, often selling for over \$2,000 for a pair. However, it's the company's wall art that is most commonly acquired by collectors. More accessible and affordable than large furnishings, wall art offers a great entry point into Witco's unique merchandise, with items like a Viking ship wall hanging available for under \$500. Additionally, wall art is often where many of the non-tiki motifs — like cats, goddesses, and swords — are featured.

For anyone interested in Witco, tiki-themed events such as Fort Lauderdale's Hukilau and the Tiki Flea near Akron, Ohio, are great places to start.

Now a fixture in both mid-century modern and tiki circles, Witco's bold designs and exotic flair transcend functionality. The unconventional decor still embodies the spirit of freedom and individuality that defined an era.

Below: A page from a vintage Witco catalog shows some of the array of their offerings, all done in their signature carved wood.



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