THE CTION EXCHANGE And COLLECTORS NEWS ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • ESTATES • FARM • REAL ESTATE • COMMERCIAL

December 23, 2025 Vol. 49 No.04 www.eauctionexchange.com

ACROSS THE AUCTION BLOCK

1969 Camaro runs to \$169,500 at Steffen Group

BY KARIN MILLIMAN

WARREN, Ind. — Bob and Roxanna Seabolt collected some excellent automobiles during their lives together. This lifetime collection was the highlight of a recent online auction by the Steffen Group. These beauties could be viewed in person in Warren, Ind., or vou could watch 1969 Chevrolet Camaro YouTube videos to hear them run before you placed a bid. And the bids came in quickly with seemingly no limit to the amount of money that would be spent to become the next proud owner of one of these drivable pieces of history.

The top seller was a and brakes and a three-



Above: The beautiful silver on this bullet made the 1967 Corvette Coupe shine in the sun and in the money category, selling for \$72,000.

SS L78 convertible. It featured a high-performance 5000-point certification, and came with Bob Harris specialty documentation and a valuation letter. It had a 396/375-horsepower engine to move it down the road. Also, it boasted RS-SS power steering

speed automatic transmission. It also had a 12-bolt rear end. It was an actual survivor vehicle with the original drivetrain. The body was in museum condition, with both the paint and the interior. The authentic orange-and-black paint combination made it look ready for the racetrack or



Above: The authentic orange and black paint job on this 1969 Chevrolet Camaro convertible made this vehicle appear to be a racing machine. It brought the top-selling price at \$169,500.

for display. This automobile was one of only 4,889 read 42,297 miles. It raced to a new home with a \$169,500 bid.

A 1967 Chevrolet Corvette coupe came with a factory tri-power 427

engine with 400 horsepower. The four-speed produced. The odometer transmission gave it a boost of "go-power" as it blew by. With factory air conditioning, it had power steering and power brakes. It did have non-matching numbers,

more than likely from the new motor that was installed in 1987. This silver beauty was purchased from a family friend of the Seabolts in 2005, who had owned the car since

See Steffen Group Page 4

FEATURE

Mrs. Claus has done more than just bake cookies



By Larry LEMASTERS

It has been said that behind every great man there is a great woman. This statement is particularly true of Santa Claus. For all of his fame, Santa would just be an old bachelor living with a lot of elves if it wasn't for one great woman — Mrs. Claus.

Mrs. Claus, unlike her husband Santa Claus had no precedent in folklore history when, in 1849, Philadelphia-based Christian missionary, wrote about her in his short story "A Christmas Legend." In the story, an old man and woman, both carrying bundles on their backs, seek shelter in a home on Christmas Eve.

Left: 1919 postcard showing an early Mrs. Claus as she wishes Santa a safe journey on Christmas Eve.



Above: 1987 Tom Clark gnome Mrs. Santa Claus.

On Christmas morning, the children of the house find an abundance of gifts that were left for them. Soon the old couple is revealed to be the homeowners' long-lost oldest daughter and her husband, not "old Santa Claus and his wife." Mrs. Claus' first name, in the story, is Gertrude, but she likes to be called Jessica.

Mrs.Claus mentioned several more





Above: Vintage, 1950s NAPCO Santa and Mrs. Claus ceramic salt & pepper shakers.

times in the 1880s in of the Naughty-or-Nice" several different literary works, including in a Christmas musical held at the State Lunatic Asylum in Utica, New York, in 1854.

In 1878, she is illustrated as the "Keeper ledger in the story "Lill Travels in Santa Claus Land." It seems that Mrs. Claus did a lot more at the North Pole than just bake cookies. The author,

See Mrs. Claus Page 10



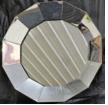
SINCE 1978 THE WEEKLY AUCTION & COLLECTORS **GUIDE FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION**

Sunday, December 28, 2025 & Sunday, January 11, 2026

1000+ Lots to include Antique Furniture, Victorian Hanging Lamps, Gold, Silver, Jewelry, Coins, Advertising, Art, Antiques, Art Glass, Pottery, Mid Century Modern, Metal Toys, Military, Playboy Magazine Collection and Much More!



2 Walnut Victorian Carved Wall Shelves



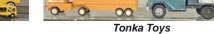
Signed Mid Century Modern Mirror





00 A Sun 0 00 Tonka Toys







Assortment of Bakelite Bangle



Antique Real Animal Hide-Hair Rocking Horse



Vintage Tin Carling's Ale Beer Advertising Sign





Example of Bronze



Vintage Double Wedding Ring Quilt



2 Antique Don Juan & Don Cesar Spelter Statues



Amberina Coin Light Fixture



2 Egermann Bohemian Glass Vases



1930s Caille 5 cent Bell Slot Machine



Victorian Queen Isabella

Wall Clock



Nippon Hand Painted Double Handled Porcelain Vase



Rino Maddolini Oil on Canvas



Asymmetric Chaise by Harry Bertoia



Assortment of Gilded Furniture

Antique Mahogany Carved

Heron Figural Table



Jardeniere



Bronze Elephant Sculpture



Bronze Printemps Bas Relief & Kronheim Tiger Sculptures



LI Co 1536 Mid-Century Modern Double Gooseneck

Table Lamp



Example of Hunmels

RARE Antique Bisque Skeleton Miniature Oil



Hubbard Hanging Victorian Lamp Amberina **Thumbprint**



Antique Rosewood Melodian



Carved Mahogany Figural Gossip Bench



Parlor Chairs



2 Carved Victorian

Walnut Victorian Marble Top Parlor Table



Antique Bradley and Hubbard Slag Glass Panel Lamp



Miller Reverse Painted Table



Figural Lamp



Front China Cabinet



Highboy Dresser



6 Stacker Barrister Bookcase



Vintage 1930s Stoner Univendor Nickel Candy Machine

Carved Mahogany Table





Sheboygan Desk





Opalescent Hobnail Hanging



Uranium Glass Floor



Modern Floor Lamp

For all terms and online bidding please visit leonardsonline.hibid.com

> All Statements made day of sale take precedence over all printed material.



Auctioneer: Richard Leonard

(734) 856-6530

6350 Consear Rd. Ottawa Lake, MI 49267 Email: Richard.leonard66@gmail.com



To be held at the Chupp Auction Center

TOYS: Featuring the Earl Miller Collection • LOCAL TRUCKS: CONCRETE TRUCKS: (3) Fidler front discharge; (4) Fidler rear discharge; (3) Kuert; Eagle; (2) Aggregate; OshKosh; OTHER TRUCKS: (2) Honeyville Propane; (3) Beer & Slabaugh; All Pro; D-Bar-D livestock; Glen W. Miller; Miller Building Supply; Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale; (2) Jayco; Troyer Foods; many other trucks including 1st Gear, DCP, all kinds of 1/64 scale, Bobcat & more; 1/8 SCALE: JD 70; JD D; JD 730; JD 720; JD A; JD 4000; JD 4020; JD BW; JD 4010; JD B; Farmall 560; Allis WD 45; Olive 1850 & wagon; McCormick manure spreader; Ford 8N & more!; OTHER FARM TOYS: (3) custom pieces by Mervin Eash including Rumley Oil Pull, JD 4020 & JD grinder/mixer; (8) pedal tractors; custom pieces by Nolt; Big Buds; JD Eska toys; JD Key Precision Series tractors from #1 to #10; SpecCast toys; construction toys; combines; New Holland baler with Wisconsin engine; Bobcats; custom horse-drawn toys with hors-

SPORTS CARDS: COMPLETE BASEBALL SETS: 1988 Topps; 1990 Topps; 1991 Topps; 1994 Topps; 1981 Fleer; 1990 & 1991 Upper Deck; 1989 & 1993 Fleer plus more!; OTHERS: (4) boxes 1991 Topps Stadium Club -unopened!; 1992-93 Fleer basket-

SILVER • GOLD • COINS: GOLD COINS: \$100 Eagle; (2) \$50.00; (2) \$20.00; (3) \$10.00; (17) \$5.00; SILVER BARS: (6) 100-oz; (2) 35-oz; (83) 10-oz; (46) 1-oz; (4) 1-oz silver bullets; SILVER COINS: (200+) Morgan dollars; (90) Peace dollars; (540+) Silver Eagles; (160+) 1-oz rounds; (33) 5-oz rounds; (125) dimes; (125) Liberty half dollars; (797) 1964 Kennedy half dollars; (63) Franklin half dollars; (5) Carson City; (16) War nickels; (6) Abraham Lincoln Commemorative silver dollars; many silver proof sets; OTHER COINS: 1865 3-cent nickel; 1838 large cent; 1854 half dime; some paper money; non-silver proof sets; wheat pennies; plus lots more

400 LOTS OF BOOKS: BIBLICAL BOOKS: The Robe; Apostle Paul; Women of the Bible; David the King; Life of Christ; Man of Nazareth; Maxwell Bible Story Set; plus more; OTHERS: Hundreds of newer true stories; lots of Little Golden Books; Prison Pen; Amish True Stories; Sword of the Lords; Mennonite Soldier; Mennonites of America; Indian stores; Abe Lin-

colns; Black Stallions; Lassie; Pineapple Quilt series; Davy Crockett; children books; Norman Rockwells; Abe the News Boy; Nurse & Spy in Union Army; Titanic; Bear Attacks; Que Creek Mine; Disaster books; 1906 San Francisco Earthquake; WWI; WWII; other war books; Sailors; Emergency & Rescue; Pearl Harbor; John Deere; Hitler; Coast Guard; Christian Light Publications books; Stories Behind the News; lots more!

MISC ITEMS • BIKES: (2) boys & (1) girls 18-speed bikes -like new; like new folding ping pong table; Lifetime double-shot basketball game; (3) electric recliners; floor model popcorn machine out of Middlebury School; child's hickory rocker; high quality paintball gun & accessories; nice cookware set; lawn & garden tools; sleeping bag; life jackets; child's wagon; carrom set; canning jars; 4' folding table; (2) LP burners; LP heater;

ANTIQUES: Cupboard with pie safe bottom; industrial table with butcher block top; Middlebury Creamery milk can; Middlebury Produce wooden chicken crate; Lambright Hatchery chicken feeder; Wana Feed bags; salesman sample bike cart from Wingard Sales -only one madel; baseball gloves; catcher's masks; (20+) tin sap pails; large cast iron pan; fire hose with cast iron reel; box of early marbles; arrowheads; many more items too numerous to mention! NOTICE: For catalogs of Toys, Coins or Books, contact Chupp Auctions at 260-768-7616.



TERMS: 7% Sales tax. NO IN-HOUSE BUYER PREMIUM! Food will be available. Auction to be held inside a heated building with seating. Any announcements made day of auction take precedence

printed matter.

BID ON TOYS TODAY! www.CHAUCTIONS.com AuctionZip

LYLE CHUPP • 260-499-0216 IN #AU08800826

DALE CHUPP • 260-499-0093 IN #AU19800030



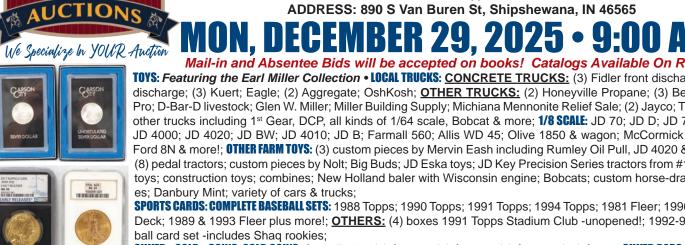
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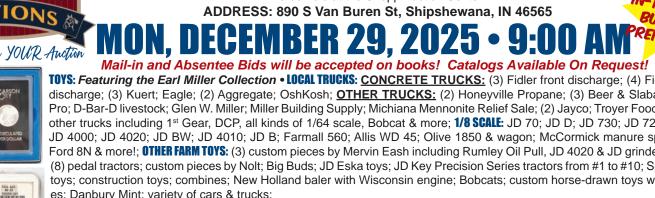
Wishes you all a

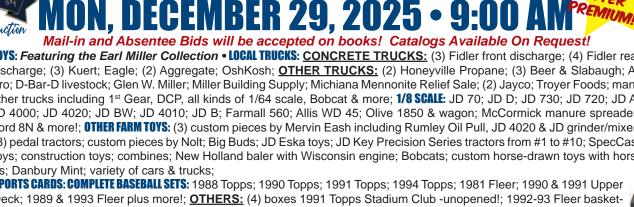
Merry Christmas & tappy New Year

Thank you for making this year a meaningful and successful one.















Steffen Group

FROM PAGE 1

1987. The engine block was stamped incorrectly, but the automobile did come with the old block and the proper documents. The odometer read 57,636 on this sleek beauty, with red-lined tires and fancy chrome trim. The hammer didn't mark this one sold until bidding reached \$72,000, making it second place on the money list.

Bringing in a bid of \$65,000, a 1959 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe was a real collector's piece. This was a survivor with a 283 engine and a 185-horsepower automatic. It had power steering, power brakes, and a single exhaust. The numbers matched on this one, and it had the original paint. The Seabolts had purchased this two-door silver beauty in 2006. The odometer showed 19,999, and this one was showroom-ready. The body shape, with wings on its back, made it appear as if it could take flight at any moment.

A 1965 Chevrolet Corvette convertible was shiny black with a tan convertible top. It was made for speed with the 454 engine and a fourspeed transmission. The numbers did not match. It had a new hood, engine, and new suspension springs. This one had a traditional feel with no power steering or brakes. It had Kelsey Hayes knock-off rims, and the odometer showed 54,574. It brought \$38,250.

Dropping the price down to \$36,250 was a 1966 Chevrolet Chevelle SS Clone. It was painted cream and looked very sleek in the bright sunshine. It had a 396 engine under the hood, which in 2018. The odometer produced 360 horsepower, and a four-speed transmission to move it down the road. It was an SS tribute car and was



Above: A Chevrolet Camaro RS Convertible sold for \$30,000 and was gorgeous, with its gold-andblack paint job.

purchased by the Seabolts in 1982. The odometer read 56,461.

Sporting a very different look from a different time was a car built in 2006 but which looked like a 1934 Ford Coupe. This one was painted a deep black color that glowed under the sun. It had a 350 Chevrolet. Ivan Slain and Wayne Hawk had been given credit for doing this fantastic job. It had a fiberglass body. Under the hood was an automatic transmission with power rack-and-pinion steering. It had power windows and a power trunk. It also had air conditioning. Part of the sleek look could be attributed to the suicide doors. With the odometer reading 17,456, this one was a piece to be driven and shown to the world. It brought \$35,250.

gold-and-black Α Chevrolet Camaro RS convertible came in with a bid of \$30,000. This 1967 blast from the past had a 350 automatic power glide transmission. It also had the convenience of power steering. With American Racing rims and new tires, this one presented a gorgeous picture of the past. It had non-matching numbers, but that didn't detract from its appeal for those interested in a sportier-looking ride. It was purchased by the Seabolts read 33,738 miles.

Everyone knows an automobile collector is going to have some great items that naturally go



Above: This Chevrolet sign announced to everyone where the heartstrings were on the Seabolt property and sold for \$3,250.

along with this hobby. The Seabolts were no different. They had a backvard buddy for the essential times that the vehicle had to be lifted to work on it. This one was an automatic lift with a maximum lifting weight of 7000 pounds. It was made in the United States and worked just fine. It sold for \$3,850.

And of course, there is always a special engine just waiting on the right vehicle to come around. A 1967 to 1971 Chevrolet engine, a 427/435, was in demand and didn't sell until bidding reached \$7.550.

A neon Chevrolet sign on a pole sold for \$3,250. The pole was 15 feet above ground, with the sign measuring approximately 70 by 31 by 22 by 18 inches. The sign said "Chevrolet" and was custom-made by the Johnson South Brothers in Whitely, Ind.

Bringing an impressive bid of \$3,100, a dog-eared Gulf sign was double-sided. It was a pole sign bragging an impressive 6 feet in diameter. It came on a



Above: The wings on the rear of this 1959 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe made it appear it was ready for take-off. It sold for \$65,000.



Above: A black beauty, this 2006 made 1934 Ford Coupe, had suicide doors and sold for \$35,250.



Above: 1965 Chevrolet Corvette Convertible didn't come with the comforts we take for granted today. No power steering or brakes, but this just upped the appeal of this black beauty. It sold for \$38,250.



Above: This 1966 Chevrolet Chevelle brought a bid of \$36,250 and looked like a real beauty with the sun gleaming off the cream-colored paint job.

12-foot cast-iron base.

The Steffen Group did a fantastic job of selling off this automotive collection. The videos of the automobiles were clear and showed what each one could do. You can check out their upcoming auctions on steffengrp.



Above: Gulf signs are pretty standard, but this double-sided one was in great shape and sold for



Above: A backyard buddy is essential when owning a great automobile collection. This one brought a bid of \$3,850.



Above: Selling for \$7,550, this 1967-1971 Chevrolet engine was a 427/435

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Multiple areas have reported late deliveries for the week of 11/18/25.

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----- Unless otherwise noted -----

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1/8 page (5"Wx4"H) - \$83.80 1/4 page (5"Wx8"H) - \$157.77

1/2 page (101/4"Wx8"H) - \$315.56 Full page (101/4"Wx16"H) - \$546.15

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Our open rate is calculated at \$7.33 per column inch. Call for more information about our Low Cost Standard Open Rate (\$6.98/col.") which is based on a minimum of 10 point type in the body copy.

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Each page is six columns wide (10-1/4 inches) by 15-1/2 inches high. Each column is 1-5/8 inches wide. We use a minimum of 10 pt. type (for body copy) for purposes of readability, and specific point sizes for heading (24 pt.), date (18 pt.), city/state (16 pt.) so please keep this in mind as you plan your ad. We typeset your ad to fit our specifications while keeping in mind your requirements and the need to minimize the cost of your ad.

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Deadlines/Sending Copy: Our deadline is 12 noon on the Tuesday before the issue date, (Tuesday). All material must be received by this time, including photographs. (Call for holiday schedules.) A 10% surcharge will be added to display advertising received Tuesday between 12 Noon and 3:00 p.m. We cannot always guarantee insertion of late ads. In all cases, it's a good idea to call and notify us that an ad is being sent, and to confirm that your ad has been received.

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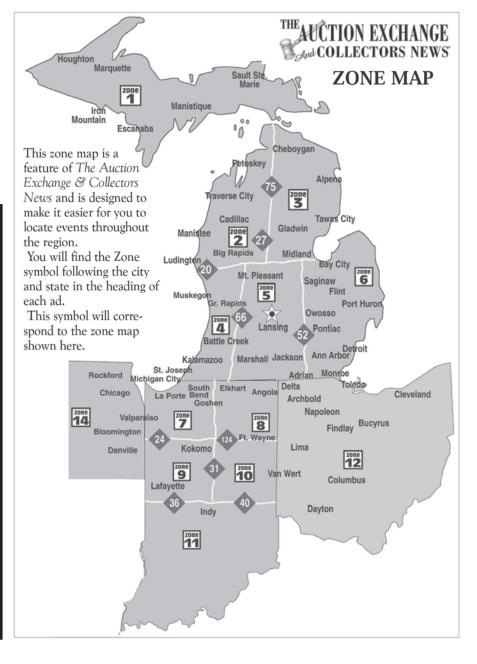
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ISSUE DATE DEADLINE (NOON) ***NO ISSUE DEC. 30, 2025*** JAN. 6 MON.. DEC. 29 JAN. 13 TUES., JAN. 6 JAN. 20TUES., JAN. 13 JAN. 27TUES., JAN. 20 FEB. 3.....TUES., JAN. 27 FEB. 10..... TUES., FEB. 3 FEB. 17.....TUES., FEB 10 FEB. 24.....TUES., FEB 17



UPCOMING AUCTION CALENI

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

Thu., Jan. 1, Kendall Tobias Auction, Antq., Coll., Misc., Hastings, MI Sat., Jan. 3, Dales

Auctioneering Service LLC, Toy, Sporting, Misc, Holland, MI

ZONE 5

Thu., Jan. 8, Braun & **Helmer Auction Service**, Miscellaneous, Tipton, MI Thu., Jan. 8, Spieth & Satow, Misc., RE, Coldwater, MI Fri., Jan. 23, Stantons Auctioneers, Firearm, Hastings, MI

ZONE 8

Mon., Dec. 29, Chupp **Auctions & Real Estate** LLC, Coin, Toy, Misc., Shipshewana, IN Wed., Jan. 7, Strawser/Real Estate Sails, Inc., Antique

Estate, Wolcottville, IN

OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBE Thu., Feb. 12, Polk Auction Co., Ag, Construction, New Paris, IN

ZONE 12

Mon., Dec. 29, Aaron Mast, 3 Day Miscellaneous, Middlefield, OH

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Type of Auction Day **Auction** Date Town State Company

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CONSTRUCTION & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

BIDDING ENDS: TUESDAY, JANUARY 6 REPOCAST LOCATIONS, MI



- New 2025 LandHonor Mini Skid Steers
 - Komatsu PC78US-8 Excavator
 - Case 660 Trencher
 - Gradall 534C Telehandler
 - (2) Kubota RTV X1100C
 - 2005 Skyjack SJ3220 Scissor Lift
 - Work Vehicles
 - Trailers
 - Shipping Crates
 - Forklifts
 - Supplies
 - Lumber
 - Stone Greenhouses
 - Shelters
 - Attachments
 - Tools

Plus Much More







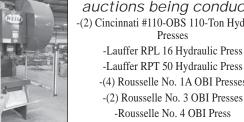


VIEW ALL ITEMS IN DETAIL AND/OR BID AT REPOCAST.COM OR CALL OUR OFFICE AT (616) 261-4988

BIDDING ENDS: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30 TRAVERSE CITY, MI web

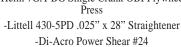


This is the 1st of 3 scheduled equipment auctions being conducted for Howard Miller. -(2) Cincinnati #110-OBS 110-Ton Hydraulic



Presses -Lauffer RPL 16 Hydraulic Press

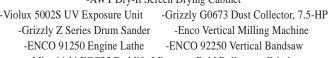
- -(4) Rousselle No. 1A OBI Presses -(2) Rousselle No. 3 OBI Presses -Rousselle No. 4 OBI Press -(2) Rousselle 300-B OBI Press
- -Rousselle 351-B OBI Press -Heim OBI Punch Press -Heim 7GA-BG Single Crank OBI Flywheel



-Brush Machine -Century Wash Machine

-Walk in Oven -American Ultraviolet Co DS-30-3-T3 UV





-Enco Vertical Milling Machine -ENCO 92250 Vertical Bandsaw

-Reid Rollerway Grinder -Mitsubishi FGC25 Forklift, LP -DeWALT 80Gallon Air Compressor, Great Lakes Dryer

-(7) Chicago Rivet & Machine CO. Model 450 Riveting Machines -Teledyne Taber Model 3K-7-125

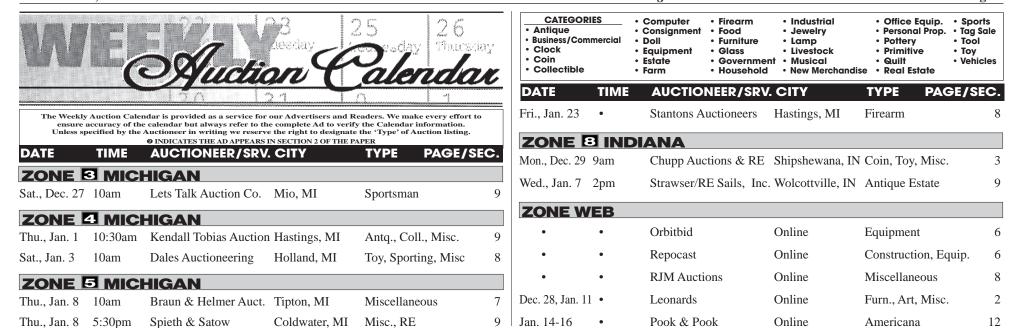
-Lincoln Electric Power Mig 256 Mig Welder

-Raw Materials: Larger Coils of Brass and Aluminum

-Also Includes a large amount of miscellaneous machinery and equipment including: Big Joe Electric Lift, Beech PS-3058B Hydraulic Platform Lift, Flammable Cabinets, Pallet Racking, Carts, Shop Fans, Work Benches, Shop Saw, Table Saws, Hand Tools, Power Tools, *Plus Much More*



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Our next issue will be Tues., Jan. 6th (Early deadline of Mon., Dec. 29th for advertising)

Thank You For All Your Support In 2025

Wishing you and yours health and prosperity in the new year.



Hoarder Auction

Two Rings

The Auction House is Full of Great Items

Thurs., Jan. 8th @ 10am

LOCATION: 5121 MICHIGAN AVE.

DIRECTIONS: Take Michigan Ave. (US-12) to Auction. The Auction is West of Clinton, MI & East of Brooklyn & Onsted, MI. The auction is on the South side of US 12 - look for signs. Tipton is located in the Irish Hills area

Tipton, Michigan 49287





Ring One:

Jewelry - large amount incl. Silver, Costume & Vintage * Hand Woven Native American Baskets * Signs & Advertising * Furniture * Military * Tools * Pop Culture * Antiques * Kitchenware * Vintage Pennants *



Large amount of Vintage Suitcases * Wood Bowls * Marbles * A great selection of Items of Interest *













Ring Two:

Large radio collection: including a large variety of shapes, styles, colors, and brands. styles incl. Cathedral, dome top, teak top. Mantle, including Stachel Carlson, RCA, Victor, Delco, Philco, Stewart Warner, Emerson, Sylvania, Firestone, Marquette, Zenith, Silvertone, cadet, Motorola, Meck, Trolla, Spartan, Belmont, Bendix, Plymouth, Zinette, Meissner, General Electric, traveler, Delco, Crossley, Stromberg – Carlson, airline, Clarion, and much more!

Victrola including VV – XIV – 109117E, Edison record player, several other standing radios and record players, including Columbia, GRAFONOLA, Victrola, Silvertone, zenith, etc.

Radios vary in condition, however many work























10% Buyer's Premium * Cash,

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SATURDAY – JANUARY 3, 2026 – 10:00 AM

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Mrs. Claus

FROM PAGE 1

Ellis Towne, told the story of little Lill, who describes her imaginary visit to Santa's office, which, by the way, is not located in the Arctic at the North Pole.

However, it wasn't until 10 years, 1889, later that Mrs. Claus became a Christmas staple when Katharine Lee Bates wrote about her in the poem "Goody Santa Claus on Sleigh Ride." "Goody" is short for "Goodwife." In the poem, Mrs. Claus cajoles Santa into giving her a Christmas Eve sleigh ride. Mrs. Claus helps Santa by steadying the reindeer while Santa delivers toys down the chimneys. At one house, Santa allows Mrs. Claus to descend the chimney with the toys. She sees how tattered the poor child's stocking is, and she mends it before filling it with toys. Once back at the North Pole, Mrs. Claus announces that she is the "gladdest of the glad" because she has had her "own sweet

Nearly from her creation, Mrs. Claus has



Above: Vintage Artoria Limoges box, No, 666, with Santa and Mrs. Claus; \$160.

been depicted as a heavyset, kindly, white-haired, elderly woman, who loves baking cookies. She oversees all of Santa's elves and sometimes aids in toy production.

Mrs. Claus has since appeared in story, film, television, and other media. She was brought into modern popularity in the 1960s children's book "How Mrs. Santa Claus Saved Christmas" by Pulitzer Prize-winning

author Phyllis McGinley. commonly and pepper shakers. She character adjacent to Santa Claus. She is also found in television

Today, Mrs. Claus is seen in cartoons, on greeting cards, in knick-knacks such as Christmas tree ornaments, dolls, and salt is also in storybooks, in seasonal school plays and pageants, in parades, and in department store "Santa Lands" as a



Above: 1878 illustration of Mrs. Claus, revealed as the Keeper of the naughtyor-nice ledger in "Lill in Santa Claus Land" by Ellis Towne.

programs, and live action and animated films that deal with Christmas and the world of Santa Claus.

Mrs. Claus has been depicted several times in movies. Her firstappearance was in the classic 1964 movie "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians," where she was played by Doris Rich. Other actresses to play Mrs. Claus are June Lockhart (The Night They Saved Christmas, 1984), Judy Cornwell (Santa Claus: The Movie, 1985), Elizabeth Mitchell

(The Santa Clause 2, 2002), and Miranda Richardson (Fred Claus, 2007).

Mrs. Claus was also portrayed by Angela Lansbury in the 1996 television musical Mrs. Santa Claus. DVDs of this movie have been offered on eBay for as much as \$150.

Ceramic Christmas ornaments of Mrs. Claus include Danbury Mint, Tom Clark, Limoges, and Hallmark. Early "Made in Japan" ornaments, 1950s & '60s, depicting



Above: Signed, 1997 "Mrs. Claus's Story" by Hallmark Ornament Studio Edition; \$135

Mrs. Claus have a strong following among collectors and often sell for \$100 or more.

Japanese robot car sells for \$233,700 at Morphy's

DENVER, Pa. Morphy's November 11-13 Toys & General Collectibles Auction launched a sweet honeymoon trip for a Japanese robot car that soared to an astronomical winning bid of \$233,700. Extraordinarily rare and possibly one of only two known that retain their original pictorial boxes, the sensational fantasy toy known to space toy collec-



Above: Villeroy & Boch (Germany) 48 inch terracotta Santa figure with fir Christmas tree. It sold for \$86,100. All images courtesy of Morphy Auctions

tors as the "Honeymoon Car" led a stellar 1,375-lot auction lineup that totaled \$1.66 million.

Made by ET (Japan), the silver convertible was complete and all original, with a blue windshield, large grille and tailfins typical of midcentury American cars. Why it is known in the toy-collecting hobby as the "Honeymoon Car" is unclear – even more so when considering one lithographed robot serves as the driver, while the other rides along as a passenger in the backseat, engrossed in a TV screen broadcasting an outer-space scene. Not exactly a love match! Undoubtedly, the colorful lithographed box added a tremendous amount to its desirability factor, perhaps even doubling the value of the elusive postwar gem. The box lid is lavishly illustrated in full color, with a depiction of the sleek convertible against a setting reminiscent of Chicago's Lake Shore Drive. The lot attracted 37 bids before selling to a U.S.-based buyer for almost three times its high estimate. To put things into perspective, this toy, which rolled out of Morphy's gallery for \$233,700, is more valuable than a 2026 Tesla Roadster, whose base price is expected to be around \$200,000.

Another visitor from a faraway galaxy, a very rare Yonezawa (Japan) battery-operated Jupiter Robot arrived with its original pictorial box with all inserts and its correct plastic remote control. The toy showed no cracking whatsoever to its dome. This fine example of a coveted, boxed Jupiter sold at the midpoint of its estimate range, for \$29,520.

A fellow who knows everything about toys, Santa Claus, made his presence known in the form of a wonderful 4 foottall Villeroy & Boch terracotta figure. The three-dimensional depiction of the holiday gift-giver holding a fir Christmas tree is documented in the German manufacturer's catalog from the year 1900 and may have been intended for display in a larger department store's window. It was obvious that the artists behind the piece paid extraordinary attention to detail during every stop of the creative process. The original paint they applied had mellowed very nicely over the past 125 years, only adding to the beauty of the figure's facial features. The figure sold for \$86,200.

Morphy's toy sales have rapidly become known as an outstanding source for vintage sports cards. In the November sale, top money was paid for a complete set of 1959 Topps baseball cards. Totaling 572 cards, approximately 80 percent of which have already been graded, the selection included such highlights as a Willie Mays All-Star card No. 563 in PSA Mint 9 condition and



Above: Rare Yonezawa (Japan) battery-operated Jupiter Robot in original pictorial box with all inserts, and correct plastic remote control. Sold at the midpoint of its estimate range, for \$29,520.

approximately 35 Hall of Famers in PSA NM to Mint 8 condition, including a No. 10 Mickey Mantle and No. 514 Bob Gibson rookie card. A fabulous set that took the original owner years of dedicated searching to complete, it sold well above its high estimate, for \$67,650.

Another great find for some lucky bidder was an incredibly rare 1955 Topps baseball cello pack graded PSA 6. One of few examples known and in NM condition, it sold near the top of its estimate range, for \$33,600.

From the world of superheroes, a circa-1940 Marx Superman Rollover Plane was offered together with its colorful, profusely-illustrated original box. The toy itself was also all original, including its back fins, and its condition was graded Excellent. It sold for \$5,412.

Morphy's team was pleased to welcome the





Above: Extraordinarily rare ET (Japan) tin friction 'Honeymoon' Robot Car, one of possibly only two in existence that retain their original pictorial boxes. It was the top lot selling for \$233,700 against an estimate of \$40,000-\$80,000

worldwide contingent of toy soldier collectors who, for decades, had followed the late Ray Haradin's Old Toy Soldier Auctions. As the new steward of auctions conducted for the OTSA brand, Morphy's allocated 500 lots of military and civilian sets, figures and accessories to the Nov. 13 session. A boxed W Britain 12th Lancers "Prince of Wales Own" Set No. 4 with bugler and officer figures, manufactured 1893-1896, sold for \$5,904.

Holiday collectors were "all in" on 61 lots of vintage Christmas and Halloween goodies. A rare composition Halloween "Lettuce Man" candy container shaped as a lamp with a built-in candle holder proved irresistible. Its esoteric design included facial figures carved into the lamp's shade, with translucent paper-insert-covered eyes, nose and toothy smile that had survived many decades in fine, undamaged condition. A prize for any collector of Halloween antiques or "veggie people," the rare collectible sold for \$20.910. Additionally, a group lot of eight delightful Halloween jack-o-lanterns in various colors with a variety of expressions sold for \$9,225.

For more information visit www.morphyauctions.com.

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