

Plenty to like at May 11 Crusade for Children charity auction in Austin

Written by George Browning
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There's plenty of items to like at the charity auction set for Saturday night, May 11, to raise funds for the 2013 WHAS Crusade for Children.

The event is being organized by members of the Jennings Township Volunteer Fire Department, and everyone is welcome to attend, bid on really great items and have a good time. The auction will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at the fire department's headquarters on the northeast corner of S.R. 256 and North Second Street in downtown Austin.

Auctioneers with Dave Gray Auctions and Appraisals have volunteered their services for the fund-raiser.

The annual Crusade for Children raises money to aid children with special medical and educational needs. All funds raised in each county served by the Crusade in Kentuckiana remains in that county, so each dollar taken in by the event will help a Scott County child reach the Crusade's goal of "...changing the lives of children with special needs in Kentucky and Indiana."

The Jennings department has participated in the Crusade for Children since 1965 and, each first weekend in June, members can be seen at the intersection of U.S. Highway 31 and State Road 256, asking for donations from motorists.

The scheduled auction will help the department's contribution grow this year so that more children can be assisted.

Firemen are still collecting donations from local residents and businesses that will be featured in the auction.

What they've got so far is sure to draw a crowd. Of the 139 items to be featured are:

- An autographed photo of former Colts/now Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning;
- A vacation package to the Four Queens in Las Vegas;
- Six Churchill Downs tickets;
- An Indiana Fever WNBA autographed basketball;
- An Indianapolis Colts autographed football;
- A vacation package to the Atlantis in Reno, Nv.
- Four Louisville Riverbats tickets;
- A Myrtle Beach vacation attraction package;
- A sightseeing tour on the Belle of Louisville for two;
- Four Cincinnati Reds tickets;
- An autographed photo of Kentucky Wildcats Coach John Calipari;
- An autographed copy of the book written by National Champions University of Louisville Coach Rick Pitino; and
- Attractive and practical Tupperware items and sets.

Organizers have also collected a lot of tickets to local attractions and gift cards from area businesses.

Anyone who would like to donate in any way is encouraged to contact department President Greg Hammons at the fire station by calling 794-3818 or at 1-812-820-9430 "We think the auction is a great way to not only help the Crusade for Children but also mark its 60th year. The Crusade has helped many youngsters in Scott County live better lives. We all need to give so that our little ones can benefit," stated Hammons.