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Nearly 700 items sold at annual LCTI auction
Dump truck draws highest bid of $3,100; event draws more than 100 participants

SCHNECKSVILLE, Pa. | Nearly 700 items sold in less than three hours Friday (July 17, 2015) at Lehigh Career & Technical Institute’s annual surplus auction.

With veteran auctioneer John Pfeiffer calling the shots, about 100 participants bid on everything from microscopes and laptops to commercial refrigeration units and construction vehicles.

This year’s event was an unprecedented success, according to LCTI Business Administrator Patricia Bader. She noted that 691 of the 692 items listed for sale drew purchase offers during the auction, which was held on campus behind the school distribution center.

Everything sold except a box of books. “That’s a record,” Bader said.

A 1971 Mack water truck, a 1981 GMC dump truck and a 14-foot bowrider were among the big-ticket items bidders snapped up, said LCTI materials handler Kyle Walbert, who manages the school distribution center. The dump truck notched the day’s highest bid of $3,100, he said.

Also sold were several pallets of brick, a lawn tractor, lawn edgers, stationary bikes, a snowblower, a salt spreader, pallet jacks and light fixtures.

Sold “as is,” most auction items were in good working order, but outdated. In order to ensure that students train on industry-standard equipment with the latest safety and technological features, LCTI follows a relatively aggressive replacement schedule, Bader explained.

The event makes room for new equipment and its proceeds offset the cost of their purchase, Walbert said. The auction also serves as an opportunity for LCTI community members to buy professional-grade equipment at a discount.

For example, a local restaurateur needed a freezer, but couldn’t afford to buy new and so bid on the Hobart unit LCTI put on the auction block, Walbert said.

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About Lehigh Career & Technical Institute
Lehigh Career & Technical Institute is Pennsylvania’s largest career and technical school. Founded in 1971, LCTI each year provides more than 45 skills-based programs of study, as well as academic instruction for about 2,700 students from Lehigh County’s 10 public high schools. LCTI also offers industry-relevant training and credentials for adults working in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. The school’s state-of-the-art facilities encompass 450,000 square feet on a 47-acre campus in the Schnecksville section of North Whitehall Township. Visit lcti.org for more information about LCTI.