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JULY NEWSLETTER 2020



When you have a “new way of doing business” the Exchange is here to spread the word!

While you won't hear the words “Going once... going twice... SOLD!” echoing through Owens Auction Gallery, you will still hear the excited utterances of buyers when they find something they “just can't live without”. Jeff Owens, owner of Owens Auction Gallery, typically holds a 2 day monthly auction. When Covid-19 hit, that put a halt to live auctions. After several weeks, the state of Washington deemed Owens Auction Gallery to be an essential business, given that they sell firearms, ammunition, appliances, tools etc. The 14,000 sq.ft. gallery, which boasts a diverse inventory that also includes antiques, jewelry, collectibles, fine art, mattresses, rugs, new and estate furniture and furnishings, yard equipment, and an ever-changing assortment of items that customers consign to sell at auction turned into a retail consignment store. “We turned a monthly project into a daily project,” Owens said. “We have met people who have driven by but never stopped because the auction experience intimidated them. It's been fun to show people that buying and selling at an auction is easy and fun.” But for now, everything is priced and ready for a new home. Stop by Owens Auction Gallery located at 3204 E. 17th, Spokane, 509-891-9935, www.owensauction.com

Reinland Auction, which is located in Idaho, also had to halt their live auctions when Covid-19 closed all large gatherings. Their yard and buildings were full for the March auction, which they had to cancel. So, they decided to have their first online auction in May to make room for more inventory.

Being uncharted territory for Reinland, they took on the tedious task of taking a photo of each item and hoped for the best. “I was very, very pleased” said Tom Reinland. While he prefers live auctions because of his rapport with the crowd, the online auction brought good prices and became a win/win situation for buyers and sellers alike. “We will likely do a mix of live and online auctions now that we had success” said Reinland. Reinland Equipment Auction held their first live auction Saturday, June 13, after restrictions were lifted in Idaho. They are now accepting consignments for their July 25 live auction at 2618 N. Beck Rd., Post Falls ID. 208-457-9611, www.reinlandauctions.net.

Caring Transitions is a franchise that specializes in senior relocation, downsizing, estate sales and online auction services. Covid 19 changed the way they did business in terms of personal appointments, but their online auctions continued without much of a hitch. “Other than having to space appointments out for those picking up their items from the online auctions, we did not miss a beat,” said Alan Beckley, owner of the local franchise. “Our estate sales in Washington had to stop due to the rules about large gatherings, but we are scheduling them for later in the summer at this point” said Beckley. To register and bid for their latest auction visit InlandNW.CTBids.com, 509-828-7532.

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