

Get News Updates

Login

Profile

The Burton View

VIEW Newspapers

Choose your paper to read now

Community News, Sports & Lifestyle

Miscellaneous

Dining & Entertainment

Health

Finance

Auto

Worship

Service Directory

Real Estate

News
Front Page
News Briefs
News
Blotter
Viewpoint
Living
Scene
Calendar
Business
Classifieds
Sports center>
Health & Wellness
Example:
Big Event
Genesee Gift Guide
2009 Football Preview
2009 Football Preview Links
Contact Us
Classified Order
Subscribe
Calendar of Events
Submission
Advertiser Index
Copyright © 2009 The Burton View All Rights Reserved

Living January 21, 2010 Search Archives Search

Appraiser gives tips on how to build and maintain a collection

BY ROBERTO ACOSTA



Appraiser Caroline Ashleigh, left, was at the Burton Senior Center, Jan. 14.

BURTON — Appraiser Caroline Ashleigh said her love affair with collectibles began when she was a young child.

Ashleigh, a veteran of the popular PBS series, *Antiques Roadshow*, received a miniature tinplate carousel from her father as a child.

"That's the one thing from my childhood that launched my career" she told a crowd at the Burton Senior Center on Thursday. Ashleigh recalled out loud the small German carousel turned clockwise and counter-clockwise and include sounds from "a wilting music box."

"I would sit on the edge of my bed and watch this thing go around and around," she said. "I would become mesmerized."

She told the assembled crowd "I think that was really when I was bitten by the bug" and Ashleigh began searching for where the item came from, who made it and pricing. From that beginning, Ashleigh now advises people on starting their own collections, appraising or in helping people make some money off their investments in collectibles and antiques.

"That's what I get up for every day," she said. "It's my life."

Ashleigh asked the crowd what they collected, and she received answers from old figurines from grandparents, to movable and pop-up books to antique jewelry.

"I think that collecting is really basically an expression of self," she said, in that it shows interests, history and personality of the collector. Ashleigh said collectors generally break down into one of two categories.

One category is the people who have a passion for something.

"They're really enthusiastic about what they collect and they love what they collect," she said. A second group are those who buy for commodity, or financial gain, which Ashleigh called a "floating crap game" because prices can go high one day and vanish the next depending on the marketplace.

She said those who really want to make some financial strides in collecting have

to do it with gusto" and not be afraid to make mistakes or invest money in something that could make for a good investment.

Ashleigh said people collect usually for one of the two reasons, but kidded that collecting sometimes isn't very rational, quipping it's "kind of like love".

She said building and maintaining a collection takes time and work, including going to antique stores, auctions, flea markets or tax sales to look for items. After purchasing the items, Ashleigh, a graduate of New York University in Appraisal Studies in Fine and

Laurie Tinnin FOR CITY COUNCIL

I'm proud to announce after much criticism by the Administration that Carak's Motel is now completely boarded up. Soon I'd like to see this building demolished.

- I will demand accountability on the handling of water billings to protect all water users! Why? Because like you, I don't want higher water bills.
- For your information, Mayor Snalley is now sending out endorsement letters (in certain precincts, including Paula Zelenko, Danny Wells and Vaughn Smith) voting for the ticket will give the Mayor complete control over council.
- Do you need to be told how to vote? It's past time to take control of your city!
- I've worked hard for all my constituents in Burton. Integrity to those I serve is first and foremost with me. I need your support next Tuesday if you don't vote, don't complain about what you pay for next.

Keep Checks and Balances. Vote for Responsible Leadership Nov. 3rd
Re-Elect Laurie Tinnin
 Your Independent Voice on the City Council

Photo by Laurie Tinnin, Contributor, 22411Harvey Dr., Burton, MI 48009 744 1724

meijer Academic All-Stars

Step in and view the Academic All-Stars on our community board for customer service.

Ana Sanchez • 5th grade West Bendle Elementary
 Ana is a wonderful student. She is a positive role model for her classmates always following the Burdette NCMA (respectful, Organized, confident, and Responsible). Ana shows a great joy on her classroom and homework. She takes pride in her work and has a positive attitude.

Kendyl Boyd • 3rd grade West Bendle Elementary
 Kendyl Boyd is a pleasure to have as a student. She always tries to do well in school and it shows in the work she puts forth. I can always count on her to give her best effort. I am proud of her for the effort she makes.

All: Submitted (Homeowner Teacher) Mrs. Dawn Stevenson (Teacher)

Everytime you shop at Meijer you earn more cash rewards for your K-12 school or religious organizations. Go to meijer.com/rewards or see in stores for more information.

Center Rd. • Burton

Wanted!

2009 Chevrolet Malibu

- 100K Miles
- 4 door
- 16" alloy wheels
- 100% accident free
- 100% clean title
- 100% clean records

Call: 810-636-6222

Financing: 0% down, 0% interest for 36 months. See dealer for details. *MSRP. Excludes tax, license, title, and destination charge. ©2009 GM Corp. All rights reserved.

Make sure your home is ready for the Winter with **GOYETTE MECHANICAL**

Furnace System Clean & Check **ONLY \$89**

SAVE UP TO 80% OFF ANY BRYANT HIGH EFFICIENT FURNACE! Purchase any high efficiency Bryant furnace and get up to \$1000 rebate! See dealer for details. Call us at 810-636-6222. *Offer good on new furnaces only. PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR WITH 12 MONTHS SAME AS CASH!

GOYETTE MECHANICAL
 HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING, ELECTRICAL

30100 BURTON CENTER RD. BURTON, MI 48009
 810-636-6222

Do You Have Enough Coverage?

Don't wait to find out that the insurance you purchased online or from an 800 number gave you a discount on the wrong coverage. Talk to your neighborhood independent Auto-Owners agent, about a policy that fits your needs and budget. Visit today and form a valued relationship, that won't let you down in a time of need.

Gass - Becker Insurance Agency
 Auto-Owners Insurance
 Life Home Car Business
 100% Member Since 1914

810-636-6222



Decorative Arts and founder of Caroline Ashleigh Associates, LLC, a firm based out of Birmingham that provides appraisal and auction services, says there are some key steps that need to be taken.

Budding collectors and veterans alike should document new items, take delicate care of any collectibles or antiques, have them appraised for current value to insure worth, and have a plan in place on whom the items will go to in the future.

"It's better to think about these things with proper advisors before the fact, than after," she said. Ashleigh gives that advice to people she talks with on the Antiques Roadshow as well, which she has been a contributor on since 1995, seeing 3,000 people a day at some events.

She called the work required there by appraisers as "shotgun fire" and using the question of "is

is or is it ain't" with appraisers having to determine several things, such as authenticity, provenance (historical value), quality, condition, rarity and other criteria in rapid succession.

"We have one New York second to look at everything, to evaluate and assign a value to the piece," Ashleigh said

One of the more interesting things brought in for appraisal, she stated, was a person who claimed they had a lock of hair from Abraham Lincoln.

She noted the roadshow doesn't have scientific testing capabilities or DNA testing available on-site. Ashleigh said while there are many experts in the field, collectors should also do some research for themselves when buying an item or trying to learn its' history.

For more information on Caroline Ashleigh Associates, visit www.appraiseyourart.com or www.auctionyourart.com.

