



Greg Lawson shows Rick DeMarzio a vintage Coca-Cola stadium backpack dispenser with the original cups used for dispensing Coca-Cola. This is one of the unique items that will be auctioned on Saturday, January 4th. The auction starts live and online at noon. The doors open at 8 a.m. for preview.

Fountain City auction opens year with Advertisement Auction and Toy Sale

By Ken Lay

Fountain City Auction will soon begin the New Year with its biggest event of 2010.

On Saturday, January 4 it will host its 15th annual Advertisement Auction and Toy Sale.

The day-long event will be conducted live at Fountain City Auction and shoppers may also participate online where pre-bidding began earlier this month. Potential customers can preview each item and its current bidding price online. Customers may bid online through iBid.com, which can be linked through www.fountaincityauction.com and the AuctionCip App.

Admission to the event, which begins at noon, is free and Fountain City Auction owner Greg Lawson said he prepares for the event, which drew more than 300 people in 2010,

enjoyed selling these vintage items. I love what I do."

The timing of the event always falls in early January, just after Christmas, but Lawson said that is never problematic.

"Last year, we had over 300 people here and I have people who save up money all year to come to this," he said. "Last year, I had people come here from 14 states."

Buyers never know what they find at this particular auction. They may find old gambol machines, vintage Coke machines, signs from old gas stations or other retro goodies such as clocks. Vintage toys can also be found at this event.

"We have a mixture of the old and the new," Lawson said. "Most people like the new stuff because the older stuff is so expensive. We

have and sellers. We collect items for it all year. You can't go out and get this every day. Some of this stuff is hard to find."

The finds may be rare but shoppers can find a wide array of items including antique vending machines and vintage toys and old gas and oil signs.

Since the auction went online, it is the top viewed auction in the state of Tennessee and the sixth most viewed auction nationally on the AuctionCip website.

Fountain City Auction is located at 4109 Central Avenue Pike near the Merchant Drive Exit off of Interstate 75.

The one thing that Lawson promises is that the event will be a good time.

"We're going to have a lot of fun," he said.

For more information on the event, it was only fitting that the meeting included split votes on some issues. Wallace, a local realtor, emerged as a strong voice on the council occasionally at odds with the mayor or his fellow council members, but always in a civil manner.

Aside from the resolutions and ordinances, the public forum saw Wallace's wife, Stephanie, take the podium and give the audience a peek at what a council member and his family go through. Wallace served eight years on the body and Stephanie's talk was so insightful and humorous that it drew a standing ovation. The retired Knox County teacher's words were inspirational.

"Make no mistake, serving on council is a sacrifice not only for the one serving but for the family," she said, adding, "and now, at the conclusion of this meeting, life returns."

Her talk was a "Thank you" to the retiring council members and Mayor Rogers. She mentioned that Councilman Mark