

Police Auction: New Venue Draws Bigger Crowd

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A new venue proved to be good for the local police auction this year as attendance improved.

On Saturday, the Cornwall Community Police Service held its annual auction to get rid of unclaimed items, large and small.

Auctioneer Theresa Taylor said the day went very well.

"We had a bigger turnout than usual," she said. "I prefer the new venue and I think so did the buyers because it got them closer to the action."

Up until this year, the auction was held at the Bob Turner Memorial Arena, but this year the event moved across Fourth Street to the Cornwall Amouries.

Taylor said people seemed more involved and interested in items because they were not sitting in the bleachers.

Everything was put up for sale within two hours. The auction setup had cleared out of the building within three hours, Taylor said.

As usual, bicycles were the most common merchandise available. There were 90 bikes of all shapes and sizes that often sold for under \$100.

While many of the sale items were the product of possession of stolen property charges laid by police and search warrants, just as many items were found by people who reported them.

"A lot of people just call in and say they've found bikes along the side of the road," said Danielle Lauzon, property manager for the Cornwall police.

Other items, such as a DVD, were clearly stolen from a retailer because they still had price tags stuck to the packaging.

Lauzon said there was nothing unusual about the loot for sale this year, although there were two wheelchairs in bad shape.

It turns out they were found items, according to Lauzon.

There was a considerable amount of old equipment on display from the police offices.

A row of computer monitors sat on one table, while a few aging computers used in patrol cars were available.

Old video monitors used in the cell blocks and the videotape recorders that go with them were also up for grabs.