

Automotive

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

Section C

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

Sunday, December 26, 1999

Classified Ad Index

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER
■ Employment	500-599
■ Announcements	600-699
■ Merchandise	700-799
■ Autos/RVs	800-878
■ Autos By Make	879-899
■ Boats, Motors	900-999
■ Motorcycles, Mini Bikes	1000-1099
■ Trucks	1100-1199

Our complete index can be found on the second page of Real Estate section

TO PLACE AN AD

DIAL CLASSIFIED DIRECT

Wayne County	(734) 591-0900
Oakland County	(248) 644-1070
North Oakland County	(248) 475-4596
Rochester/Rochester Hills	(248) 853-3222
Fax Your Ad	(734) 953-2232

Walk-In Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm

After Hours: Call (734) 593-0900 to use our 24-Hour Voice Mail System

Deadlines: For placing, cancelling or correcting of line ads.

Publication Day	Deadline
SUNDAY	5:30 P.M. FRI.
SUNDAY REAL ESTATE	5:00 P.M. THUR.
THURSDAY	6:00 P.M. TUE.
THURSDAY DISPLAY REAL ESTATE	3:00 P.M. MON.

You can view the
Observer & Eccentric
Automotive Classifieds
on the web at:

<http://oeonline.com>

Going, going, gone

Auto auction may be your answer to an affordable car

BY KEN VAN STEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

Going once, going twice, sold! That's the sound of a good deal going down at the Midwest Auto Auction in Redford. If you're looking for an older used car at a great price, then you should put your bid on one of the area's only auctions that's open to the public.

The auction, located at 14666 Telegraph, is held twice a week — once at 6 p.m. on Tuesday and again at 10 a.m. on Friday. While it won't cost you a dime to get on the auction floor, it may save you hundreds of dollars.

"A lot of people come here right after work. We didn't always have a night-time auction but there was such a demand we added one," said owner George Badeen.

In these days of Internet bidding and electronic price wars, it might surprise some attendees that a real, live auctioneer calls out bids in a stereotypical drawl that seems more suited to the Kansas state fair.

And while the Midwest Auto Auction does have an Internet presence, it also has an owner who hails from the deep south and has schooled the uninitiated on the finer points of calling an auction.

Badeen, who was born in Kansas and raised in Texas, started out towing cars over twenty years ago at the Midwest Auto Auction. He spent time as a clerk before finally becoming an auctioneer himself, and to this day he still runs the auction when he finds himself in a pinch for a good deal caller.

While some of his auctioneers honed their skills at special schools through out the Midwest, Badeen said his expertise comes from hands-on experience.

"A couple of other auctioneers have helped me out along the way, but I just picked it up over the years. I had a good ear for the rhythm and the chant.



Making deals: Midwest Auto Auction owner George Badeen shows off some of the used cars that will soon be on the auction block.

It's been a while since I've done it on regular basis, but I did recently have to fill in when we had an auctioneer come down with a bad sore throat," Badeen said.

Most of the auction's cars come from used car dealer's lots or bank repossessions. They're separated into two "lines" for auction: the "a line," which is comprised of newer, better quality cars, and the "b line," cars which have higher mileage and more wear and tear.

The sellers pay a flat \$75 fee to enter their vehicle, then an additional percentage of the final sale.

Badeen said about 225 cars usually change hands during one of the sales, although the auctions are usually a little slower during the holidays.

"It's pretty dead until about the second week in January," he explained. Internet aficionados can view a live stream with sound from the auction twice a week.

"We have certain customers that like to watch the auction as it's happening to see if their sales are going through," Badeen said.

However, Midwest hasn't yet ironed out the kinks of electronic bidding.

"We'd like to get into (Internet auctions) but we haven't launched anything yet. Selling cars out of state can be a real headache, you get in to a lot of different regulations and different sales taxes. It could be done, but we need to put a lot more work into it," he explained.

Midwest has also sponsored several charity auctions, the most recent of which supported extracurricular activities and equipment for schools in Redford, Badeen said.

For more information, point your web browser to www.midwestautoauction.com.

CRESTWOOD DODGE

ALL NEW 2000 DAKOTA CLUB CAB NOW IN STOCK!

SPECIAL SALES HOURS: DEC. 27 - 31 MON, TUES, WED, THU 9-9 FRIDAY 9-6

2000 CARAVAN

- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Rear Defroster
- AM/FM stereo
- Power steering & Brakes
- Dual air bags
- 7 passenger

\$1999 **\$224** **36 MO.**

2000 INTREPID

- 2.7 V-6
- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Tilt Steering
- Cruise Control
- Cassette
- Floor Mats
- 15" Wheels

\$215 **\$1990** **\$236**

2000 RAM PICKUP LARAMIE SLT

- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Power Mirrors
- Sport Pkg.
- Cruise
- Tilt Wheel
- Cassette
- Aluminum Wheels
- Floor Mats

\$1999 **\$204** **36 MO.**

2000 DAKOTA CLUB CAB PICKUP

- Automatic
- 3.9 V-6
- Air Conditioning
- 40/20/40 Split
- Tilt
- Sport Group
- Aluminum Wheels
- Power Steering
- Fog Lamps
- Cruise
- Power Brakes
- Floor Mats
- AM/FM Cassette

\$146 **\$1999** **\$199** **36 MO.**

2000 DURANGO 4x4

- V-6
- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Cruise
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Cassette
- Aluminum Wheels

\$299 **\$2100** **\$359**

1999 DODGE CONVERSION VAN

Save Over \$9,000!

- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows & Locks
- Tilt & Cruise
- Power Mirrors
- Chariot Conversion
- Sofa & 4 Capt. Chairs
- Running Boards
- Chrome Wheels
- Cassette

\$17,998

2000 NEON HIGHLINE

4 door

- Air Conditioning
- Power Steering
- Stereo
- Automatic
- Power Brakes
- Floor Mats
- Rear Defrost

\$193 **\$223**

CRESTWOOD

D O D G E

SERVICE HOURS
Mon.-Fri.
7 AM - 7 PM

32850 FORD ROAD
GARDEN CITY
(734) 421-5700
TOLL FREE 1-888-MY-DODGE
(693-6111)
Open Mon. - Thurs. 9-9
Tues., Wed., Fri. 9-6