



Artist Kolleen Asaad, of the Danville Art League and Peer Court Board, left, and artist Suzie Berkes look at paintings and sculptures the art league will donate to the annual Peer Court auction set for 6 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Turtle Run.  
Commercial-News Photo By Matt Huber

## Items up for auction

# Peer Court fundraiser set for Feb. 25

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DANVILLE — A litany of items, ranging from sports memorabilia and local art to theme baskets will be up for bid at this year's Peer Court auction.

The annual event has run for more than a decade and offers a variety of donated items in live and silent auctions on Feb. 25 at the Turtle Run Golf and Banquet Center, 332 E. Liberty Lane.

Peer Court Director Paul Sermersheim said the auction is the main fundraising event put together by the Peer Court.

The event has grown in recent years, with the 2010 auction's 60-plus items bringing in the program's best net profit.

"This is a big event for us," he said. "Our auction brings in almost 25 percent of our budget revenue."

The Peer Court program, a United Way agency, has worked with first-time juvenile offenders in Vermilion County for 15 years, teaching the youths to take responsibility for their actions.

Through a court/jury scenario of their peers, the offenders are sentenced to community service, apologies, essays and other penalties intended to improve the youths' choices in life.

The event's auction preview runs from 6-7 p.m. Feb. 25 with hors d'oeuvres provided by Peer Court. Both the silent and live auctions will start at 7 p.m.

Tickets cost \$10 and will be available at the door as well as being purchased in the days prior.

In recent years, the items of interest have included such things as a ride in a two-seat World War II plane and local art from the Danville Art League and donations from various local

businesses.

Sermersheim said a new item to the auction this year and expected bid magnet is a round of golf for three people with carts at the Crooked Stick Golf Club north of Indianapolis. The Crooked Stick is an exclusive private club, he said.

Also expected to raise donations for the Peer Court is bidding for a gourmet dinner for six by Chef Drew Starkey. The dinner was donated by the Law Firm of Dukes, Ryan, Myers and Freed.

Sermersheim said Vermilion County Quilters donated a number of hand-sewn quilts while one resident has offered a hand-made mink Teddy Bear for bidding.

"That's really interesting and unique," Sermersheim said of the bear.

Theme baskets this year offer everything from massages to eye care to gardening.