

Spotlight on Casey County



Casey County Produce Auction is located in the picturesque South Fork Mennonite Community conveniently located off of Hwy. 127 in Casey County, KY. This great auction takes place every Monday and Wednesday at 2:00PM and Thursday at 5:00PM (EST) to auction off local produce, vegetables, fruits and flowers.

This is a great place if you are canning, making jams and jellies or freezing fresh vegetables for the winter to come. Here you can buy some of the best produce and vegetables - much of it grown by the local Mennonite and Amish Communities. The Hoover family, Mervin and (son) Paul, started out small with the idea of an auction to help their local neighbors sell their wares. It has grown into a large weekly event for the local community and surrounding county farmers to bring their harvest to sell the freshest produce available (a lot picked that morning or the day before). They have a huge purpose built auction area that shelters the auction from inclement weather with another large area for folks to also sell livestock, hay, farm equipment, parts and accessories, and furniture during their



amazing twice a year consignment auction. Here you can find almost anything and everything and the activity is astounding. The spring event that the Burckhard family visited had three auctioneers going simultaneously with one auctioning off large items, furniture, farm implements, farm tools and motors and such. Paul Hoover was busy auctioning off

little items from cleaning supplies, lawn and farm fertilizers to household accessories. The gentleman auctioneer in the back of the area was selling lots of goats, calves, a pig, rabbits and chickens. There were a dozen or so wagons tied up to the horse posts, as many come by horse and buggy or wagon. For those interested in a day trip, this is a great place to come to watch the ambitious auctioneers, the children and families. The community children are so well behaved. They all take care of each other and are so polite with their bright eyes and lovely smiles. This auction assists a lot of families with their livelihood, plus those buying the merchandise get the freshest produce at a great price. There are also tables of ladies selling sourdough breads, fried apple and peach pies, whoopee pies and many baked goods. They also sell fresh farm cheeses and fresh donuts. If you are hungry, no



problem, they are set up to feed the visitors and vendors. The large kettle barbecue grills are smoking with barbecue chicken quarters, pork and sometimes local farm-raised beef. The Auction is a must see while you are visiting Lake Cumberland or passing through the region. After this event, drive down the road for more of the South Fork Community where



you will find lots of commerce with a great country general store called **Sunny Valley** which offers a huge selection of bulk foods, deli made-to-order sandwiches on home baked sourdough bread, baked goods and a huge selection of spices, hand ground flours and more. **Hillside Greenhouse and Misty Mountain Sales**, more of the Hoover family's stores, offers

a great greenhouse with seeds, produce, mulch, quality fruits and vegetables. Misty Mountain Sales is a general variety store with custom wood products, fabrics, gifts and hardware and some great old fashioned wood stores. **South Fork Furniture** is also a wonderful showroom, with authentic, handcrafted Amish made furniture, gifts, and home accessories and accents owned and operated by the Hiemstra family. These families are remarkable. They are true examples of hard working, entrepreneurial businessmen whose families works together to get the job done. Yet they still take time to observe Sunday as the Lord's Day and to spend time with their family. The Hoover family can be reached at 606-787-5946 or 606-787-4509. The Hiemstra family can be reached at 606-787-7722. Come out for the day and enjoy the simple, slow, abundant lifestyle of this wonderful Mennonite Community.

