

Visit Beloit's doors to be auctioned, proceeds to benefit Angel Museum and VetsRoll

By Hillary Gavan hgavan@beloitdailynews.com | Posted: Tuesday, September 9, 2014 4:00 pm

A new door at your home may hinge on a bid.

Those wanting to adopt Beloit's doors into homes or businesses are invited to the Knock On Our Door Auction on Friday, Sept. 12 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Beloit Historical Society. The event starts at 6 p.m. with refreshments and viewing of the doors. The auction starts at 7 p.m.

The painted doors which were on display all around the city this summer as part of Visit Beloit's "Come and Knock on Our Door" project were being taken down Monday in preparation for the upcoming auction. City Department of Public Works employees took them off their mounts and Christofferson Moving & Storage loaded them up in a truck.

Hendricks Commercial Properties had donated about 56 doors from the former Beloit Inn renovation which were then painted by local artists and put on display around Beloit and South Beloit throughout the summer.

In an interview on Monday, President of the Board of the Angel Museum and Executive Director of the Downtown Beloit Association Shauna El-Amin said proceeds from the Beloit doors will go to the Angel Museum and proceeds from the South Beloit doors will go to VetsRoll.

El-Amin said the doors are more than 80 pounds apiece and are 36 inches wide by 80 inches long. Because there will be no delivery, people interested in taking one home will want to bring appropriate transportation.

The doors come with a mount and stakes to be propped up outside or could be used as a door. Because of their size, they might be an ideal door for businesses.

There is no opening bid, so the value of the doors will depend on what people are willing to pay.

There were 46 doors set up around Beloit and six doors in South Beloit.



Dropping dollars for doors

From left; Drew Brown and Rick Dieterman of Christofferson Moving & Storage were loading up Beloit's painted doors Monday. They will be auctioned off Friday night in an auction to benefit the Angel Museum and VetsRoll.

El-Amin said her offices have received many calls from people wanting to make pre-bids, which are not allowed. She said the high amount of calls, however, speaks to the amount of interest in the unique artwork.

Monica Krysztopa, executive director for Visit Beloit, said the doors were a hit.

There were more than 2,500 photos taken through Instagram and through e-mail to Visit Beloit. There were 50 people who sent pictures of every door. The doors also received 1,500 likes on Facebook.

Krysztopa said one little boy took a picture of himself in front of each door to make his own little Beloit journal. A grandmother said scouting out the doors gave her something she could do with her teenage grandchildren.

“We received dozens of emails from around the region about how much people enjoyed viewing the doors and riding through the city,” Krysztopa said.

Although she acknowledged it will be a bit sad to see the doors go, she said Visit Beloit is already in the planning stages for a new campaign for Beloit next summer.