## **Shenandoah Journal**

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## "...And the Mem'ries They Uncover, Become the Light That Leads Them ... "

Ray Foster was a member of the Livestock Auction committee for many years before his death on June 6, 2018--just two and a half weeks after the Disaster Auction ended last spring. Faithfully, he would go into the community and solicit donations from businesses for agriculture-related products and services. Every year, he brought in ten or more donated items to be auctioned during the livestock sale.

When Ray departed, leaving his footsteps behind, two of his grandchildren, Hanna and Eston Foster, with the assistance of their friend, Wesley Cupp, stepped up this year to carry on in their grandfather's place. Together, they brought in 50 donated items to add to the auction, including hanging baskets and restaurant coupons. On the night of



Hanna Foster with youngster, Rebecca Packer

the auction, Hanna enlisted the help of the youngsters in the barn to show these new items, giving these children an opportunity to be an integral part of the auction.

Hanna, Eston and Wesley were not the only young adults who picked up the mantle left by Ray Foster. Foster's son, Brent, and grandson, Glen, helped with the physical labor of setting up the barn for the Livestock Auction.

It is hoped that this is the beginning of an influx of young adults into the Disaster Auction Committee. After all, young people also need to leave their footsteps along the way.

> Brenda Sanford Diehl Shenandoah Journal June/July 2019