

**Ceylon Days 2016
Ceylon, MN
4-16-2016**

Our 80th Year!

A brief history of this legendary day...

On April 16, Ceylon Community Day and Auction will be celebrating its 80th year. Clair and Lloyd Clark started the auction with the community of Ceylon to make it a legend that no other community has been able to match. Everyone turns out to be a part of the day's festivities. Garage sales are happening throughout the town, lunch stands are set up for fundraisers, and churches are having lunch and garage sales.

Years ago the day looked different. Ceylon had entertainment and plays at the school. Walt Prust distributed free ham sandwiches for a noon lunch at the fire hall. The kids got out of school early to enjoy the day, selling popcorn balls and playing with water balloons.

Lots of changes have taken place over the years. This year a craft show at the Legion has been added. Larry Howell and Jack Rooney worked with their fathers-in-law for many years and managed the auction for the last 35+ years! This is Mark Howell and Gary Helmers' third year "in charge" as they keep the legend alive. Mark Howell will be the third generation to manage this auction.

The town continues to keep the day going after all these years. Now, over 3000 people attend this special day and over 400 consignors are part of the auction. It takes skillful management and the labor of over 30 people to run a sale day like this one! Area auctioneers help Mark and Gary with the auction. Most years they have run three auction rings throughout the town. It is an all-day sale and a day to which everyone looks forward. Rain or shine, Ceylon Community Day will continue on!

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