



Show Me the Generosity

by *Jessica Lancaster*

During Amanda Bacon's reign as the 2012 National Hereford Queen she was driven to make a difference. She created "Helping Hooves," a service project, at the 2012 Junior National Hereford Expo in Grand Island, Neb.

Amanda challenged National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members and their families to collect travel size toiletry items. The collected toiletries would be donated to a local shelter.

Amanda says, "As junior exhibitors, we attend several shows and often stay in hotels. These hotels supply fresh toiletries to their guests each night. We often take these for granted and end up just throwing them away."

She took action and decided to make a difference. Last year she saw

great results with the items that were collected during the project helping more than 800 people in the Grand Island community.

This year the drive brought in 2,424 items. All items collected were donated to the Hope House of Kansas City.

The state of Arkansas donated 694, leading the states with the most donations per exhibitor. Individually, Joe Rickabaugh, American Hereford Association director of field management, donated 199 items to the service project.

Amanda is very passionate about the project adding, "It is of the utmost importance to give back to the community hosting junior nationals with the items that we take for granted and often never use."

Amanda is currently attending Oklahoma State University where she is a sophomore. She is majoring in agriculture communications and animal science. Her future plans are to pursue a law degree from the University of Arkansas.

Amanda says she hopes that the service project will become an annual event at the JHNE. She wants the project to leave a lasting impression on the juniors and that they will realize how fortunate they are. **HW**