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## **Ellie Johnson Inducted Into NAAA Hall of Fame**

*Manheim Statesville GM honored for service to the association and industry*



**Ellie Johnson**

INDIANAPOLIS—Ellie Johnson, general manager of Manheim Statesville and past president of the National Auto Auction Association, has been inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame during its 71st annual convention held here this month. She received the honor in recognition of her dedicated service to NAAA, the industry and her community.

Membership in the Hall of Fame, established in 1968, recognizes individuals whose long-term service to the auto auction industry and NAAA has contributed improvements to remarketing as a whole, has worked with the trade organization to benefit its members and has consistently followed the high standards of the association's Code of Ethics. NAAA represents more than 340 auction members and 100 associate members in North America.

Johnson literally has a lifetime of experience in the auction profession growing up as the child of auctioneer Kenneth Aycock, who founded Aycock Auto Auction in 1984. After earning an accounting degree and real estate broker's license, Johnson joined her father's auction in 1986, first working in the front office processing vehicle registrations, then as business manager and controller. She served as general manager for the auction, which is now Manheim North Carolina, from 1997 until 2016 when she was named general manager of Manheim Statesville.

During her more than 30-year auto auction career, Johnson has been an active member of the NAAA. She served on the board of directors of NAAA's Southern Chapter and held the office of that chapter's treasurer, vice president and president. She also sat on the political action and membership committees before being elected to the association's executive team. As NAAA's president from 2014 to 2015, Johnson was instrumental in launching a safety awareness and accident prevention initiative.

In addition to NAAA, her professional memberships have included the Carolinas Independent Automobile Dealers Association (CIADA) and the National Independent Automobile Dealers Association (NIADA), which twice honored her with its Eagle Award for outstanding achievement in membership development. In 2018 Cox Automotive presented her with its annual Barbara Cox Woman of the Year Award, and is a five-time winner of the Santander Consumer USA and Chrysler Capital Asset Remarketing Awards for her work at Manheim North Carolina.

Johnson has also been involved with numerous civic groups and charitable organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Community Watch, the Kenly planning board and tourism committee. Johnson established two scholarships for graduating high school seniors, avidly supports the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, helping to raise \$100,000, and enjoys the preservation and restoration of old buildings.

She has her auto auctions give back to their communities by sponsoring local FHA and 4-H programs as well as annual food and toy drives. In 2017 Manheim Statesville donated more than \$68,000 to various charitable programs.