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Aug. 21, 2006, 4:24PM

**Buffett Puts Car Up for Bid to Aid Cause**

By ERIC OLSON Associated Press Writer  
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OMAHA, Neb. — Billionaire Warren Buffett is putting his 2001 Lincoln Town Car up for auction on eBay to benefit a national nonprofit youth organization.

Six members of Girls Inc. visited with Buffett Monday at Kiewit Plaza, headquarters of Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. The world's second-richest man led the girls to the Kiewit parking garage, where he had pictures taken with them and the Town Car.

Girls Inc. is a national nonprofit youth organization that provides educational and recreational programs to girls, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas.

"We auctioned off a wallet some years back and got \$215,000 for it, so we're hoping since this weighs about 4,000 times what the wallet did, you can figure out what we're hoping to get," Buffett said, laughing. "It's a good use for the car. It's in great shape. You couldn't have the money going to a better spot."

The light gold Town Car has just 14,000 miles on it. Buffett said he quit driving it about three months ago when he bought a Cadillac DTS.

The auction runs Sept. 12-22.

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"It's just like getting one from a little ol' schoolteacher who never took it out of the garage," Buffett said.

Buffett said Girls Inc. is one of his favorite causes. He said it reminds him of the positive experiences he had as a youth at the YMCA.

"In Omaha you have many, many hundreds of young women who can leave school at the end of the day and go into an environment where they're going to learn and be inspired by other people," Buffett said. "It brings out the best in them."

Buffett has been especially generously lately. In June he pledged \$37 billion in his stock holdings to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

First his money, and now his car?

"I'm not quite giving everything away," Buffett said.

Buffett is throwing in his "Thrifty" personalized license plates to the winning bidder.

He said he'll drive the winner from the airport when he or she comes to pick up the car.

"I've got a chauffeur's cap, too," he said.

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