



MEDIA RELEASE

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2016 ANNUAL 4-H PURPLE RIBBON AUCTION DRAWS CROWD OF SUPPORTIVE BIDDERS

St. Paul, MN (8/27/16) - Quality animals, quality kids, and quality buyers made the 37th 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction, the annual parade of champion beef, lambs, goats and swine set twelve new record prices. The auction raised more than \$605,000 in additional premium dollars from 103 head for Minnesota 4-H youth and Animal Science programs.

The **Champion Market Beef Steer** was the Champion Charolais Steer shown by Thomas Netzke of Redwood County. Ames Construction once again had the successful bid of \$26,000 for a new Minnesota record price. The **Reserve Champion Market Beef** was the Champion Division II Crossbred Steer owned by Gavin Mulder of Jackson County was sold with the final record setting bid from Farmers Union Industries and the Jackson County Purple Ribbon Club for \$12,500.

American Foods Group, Central Livestock Association, O&S Cattle Company came together to set a new record with a bid of \$13,500 for this year's **Grand Champion Dairy Steer** exhibited by Megan Blank of Benton County. The **Reserve Champion Dairy Steer** shown by Karter Jax of Mower County set the record price of \$10,000 purchased by American Foods Group and the Minnesota State Fair Concessionaires.

This year's Champion Crossbred Lightweight Barrow was named **Grand Champion Barrow** for Madelyn Vancura of Jackson County, as it sold for \$12,750, which was a new record, to a group of supporters lead by DuPont Pioneer Seeds, Hormel Foods, and Wakefield Pork. The **Reserve Champion Barrow** was a Crossbred Heavyweight shown by Bradley Rohloff of Stevens County and was purchased for \$9,000 by purchasing group made up of Wilson Trailer Sales, Swanson Meats, Merck Animal Health, Protein Sources Milling, Strobel Fams, and Cargill.

The **Champion Market Gilt** brought a new record price of \$11,500 for Jadi Koep of Jackson County when Twin City Concrete made the purchase. The **Reserve Champion Market Gilt** set a new price record exhibited by Elizabeth Thome of Mower County brought Minnesota Farmers Union and Farmers Union Agency, and Farmers Union Industries together as they partnered with the final \$10,500 bid.

The **Grand Champion Market Lamb** was the Champion Middleweight Lamb, shown by Riley Arthur of Steele County. Minnesota Farmers Union and Farmers Union Agency, and Steele County Purple Ribbon Club came together to be the winning bidders for a new record at \$8,500. The **Reserve Champion Market Lamb** exhibited by Trey Baustian of Rock County was selected from the lightweight division and brought \$5,500 when Minnesota State Fair Concessionaires and Interstate Power Systems made the purchase.

Minnesota Farmers Union and Farmers Union Agency, and Sorenson Seed helped set a new record bid of \$6,000 on the purchase of the **Grand Champion Market Meat Goat** exhibited by Thomas Sell of Cottonwood County. The **Grand Champion Dairy Meat Goat** was exhibited by Kaylee Athey of Big Stone County and sold for a record price of \$5,000 to Big Stone 4-H Federation. The **Reserve Champion Market Meat Goat** was exhibited by Reid Hansen of Blue Earth County. A team of ALLTECH, SNAK Nutrition, Blue Earth County Purple Ribbon Club purchased the goat for \$5,750, setting a new record.

Proceeds from the 4-H Purple Ribbon Livestock Auction go to the winning 4-H youth and 20% of the funds are designated to further Minnesota 4-H, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation and the Auction Scholarships. Thirty-seven 4-H Livestock Auction Scholarships were awarded this year from the premiums received last year and matching dollars thanks to the generous support of John & Sue Story & Associates, Skyride DMC-Don McClure, LA-CO Industries, Riverview LLP, Midwest Machinery, Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Independent Community Bankers of Minnesota, MN Pork Board, IDEAg Farmfest, American Farm Bureau, AgStar Financial Services, MN Farmers Union, Gislason & Hunter Law Firm, Gary Koch & Michael Dove, In Memory of Wayne Bollum, Corn Roast-Brad & Lori Ribar, Commodity & Ingredient Hedging, Martin Co. Pork Producers, Jake & Lindsay Grass, Big Gain, Duke's Poutine, Interstate Power Systems, Kent Thiesse & Greg Harder, Hubbard Feeds, MN Corn Growers Association, Zinpro, In Memory of Helen Anderson, Smithfield, Elanco, Anderson Seeds, MN Simmental Association, United FCS, Hormel, MN State Cattlewomen, Isabel Burke's Salt Water Taffy, and the MN State Cattlemen's Association. The Minnesota Purple Ribbon Auction is sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association each year.