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Pictured Included

**26th Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction
Raises More Than \$130,000 for Wisconsin 4-H Youth**

Madison, Wis. (August 9, 2017) – The Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction at the Wisconsin State Fair celebrated its 26th year. In total, this year's auction raised more than \$130,000. Proceeds from the auction benefit the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, which supports Wisconsin 4-H activities including 4-H conferences, teaching materials and workshops, and overall development of 4-H youth.

Governor Walker hosted the Auction, with emcee Bob Meyer, Ag Loan Officer with Citizens State Bank of Loyal. Auctioneers for the evening were Bob Johnson, Milton; Gary Finley, Walworth and David Allen, the 2017 Champion of the Wisconsin Auctioneer's Association Competition, from Cross Plains. In addition, serving as the auction's ringmen were Ben Brancel, Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture, Scott Gunderson, Heidi Miller, 2017 Wisconsin Champion Ringman, past champions of the Wisconsin Champion Ringman competition including Tim Miller, 2011 Champion, Rodney Freymiller, 2010 Champion, Scott Werlein, 2009 Wisconsin State Champion Auctioneer, Wayne Yoder, 2008 Wisconsin State Champion Auctioneer, Tim Slack, Wisconsin Auctioneers Association Past President, WAA Hall of FAME and 2004 Wisconsin State Champion Auctioneer and Dave Koning.

Among those attending the auction were: Kathleen O'Leary, CEO Wisconsin State Fair Park, Ray Cross, President of the UW System, Cathy Sandeen, Chancellor of UW-Extension and many other dignitaries and supporters of 4-H.

The 2017 Best of Show Award went to meat processor Wyttenbach Meats of Prairie du Sac. The company earned the honor for its Ultimate Bacon. It sold to Pagel's Ponderosa, Ron's Wisconsin Cheese and John T. Pagel for \$16,000. It was generously donated back and resold to Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps for \$6,000.

The Grand Champion, 1st Reserve Champion and 2nd Reserve Champion Winners for each of the categories are:

FLAVORED BACON

Grand Champion

Wyttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: Salm Partners for \$10,000

1st Reserve Champion

Julius Falkavage, LLC /People's Meat Market, Stevens Point

Buyer: Klements Sausage for \$2,750

2nd Reserve Champion

Karl's Country Market, Menomonee Falls

Buyer: Wells Fargo for \$3,000

BONE-IN HAM

Grand Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland

Buyer: Riteway Bus Company, Cousin's Subs, Saz's, LeRoy Haeuser Rural Mutual Insurance, Rural Mutual Insurance, Boehlke Bottle Gas

Sale Price: \$8,100 (New record)

1st Reserve Champion Sailer's Food Market and Meat, Elmwood

Buyer: Meijer

Sale Price: \$5,000

*Generously donated back and resold to Hartmann Sand & Gravel for \$2,500.

2nd Reserve Champion

The Meat Block, LLC, Greenville

Buyer: Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps

Sale Price: \$2,500

FLAVORED SUMMER SAUSAGE

Grand Champion

Haen Meat Packing Inc., Kaukauna

Buyer: Cooperative Resources International (CRI)

Sale Price: \$3,000

1st Reserve Champion

Eden Meat Market, Eden

Buyer: Schenck

Sale Price: \$3,000

2nd Reserve Champion

Maplewood Meats, Green Bay

Buyer: Rural Mutual Insurance and Wisconsin Farm Bureau

Sale Price: \$2,500

DRIED OR SMOKED BEEF

Grand Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland

Buyer: Jim Reid

Sale Price: \$2,500

1st Reserve Champion

Maplewood Meats, Green Bay

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sale Price: \$2,000

*Generously donated back and resold to Meijer for \$1,200.

*Generously donated back a second time and resold to Daluge Travel – Rick & Peggy Daluge for \$500.

2nd Reserve Champion

Wytttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: Randy Schopen Foundation

Sale Price: \$1,600

TRADITIONAL SNACK SAUSAGES

Grand Champion

Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva

Buyer: Merwin Farms

Sale Price: \$5,000 (New record)

1st Reserve Champion

Haen Meat Packing, Kaukauna

Buyer: Bob and Jill Nieskes

Sale Price: \$2,000

2nd Reserve Champion

Harry Hansen Meat Service, Franksville

Buyer: Racine County Fair

Sale Price: \$1,750

SPECIALTY COOKED BRATWURST

Grand Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sale Price: \$2,000

*Generously donated back and resold to Crane Farms for \$1,000.

1st Reserve Champion

Leroy Meats, Horicon
Buyer: Recognition Specialists
Sale Price: \$800

2nd Reserve Champion

Haen Meat Packing, Kaukauna
Buyer: Schenck SC
Sale Price: \$1,000

WHOLE MUSCLE JERKY

Grand Champion

Eden Meat Market, Eden
Buyer: Gibbsville Implement
Sale Price: \$1,500

1st Reserve Champion

Northwoods Locker, Clayton
Buyer: J&S Machine, Inc.
Sale Price: \$1,300

2nd Reserve Champion

Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva
Buyer: Town Bank
Sale Price: \$3,100

CURED SPECIALTY MEAT PRODUCT

Grand Champion – Ultimate Bacon

Wytttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac
Buyer: Country Fresh Meats
Sale Price: \$2,000

*Generously donated back and resold to Dave and Kim Daniels and Rural Mutual Insurance for \$1,000.

1st Reserve Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland
Buyer: Daluge Travel – Rick & Peggy Daluge
Sale Price: \$1,250

2nd Reserve Champion

Kewaskum Frozen Foods, Kewaskum
Buyer: Egg Innovations
Sale Price: \$1,500

KIELBASA OR SMOKED SAUSAGE

Grand Champion

Geiss Meat Service, Merrill
Buyer: Country Fresh Meats
Sale Price: \$2,000

1st Reserve Champion

Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva
Buyer: Hull Farms and Bill Thompson

Sale Price: \$4,000

2nd Reserve Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats, Meijer, Egg Innovations, Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps

Sale Price: \$5,000

Two other items were auctioned off benefiting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and Wisconsin 4-H youth. A Wisconsin Package, including a Wisconsin-shaped Summer Sausage courtesy of Kewaskum Frozen Foods of Kewaskum and cheese donated by the Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Promotion Board, was purchased by Hartmann Sand and Gravel for \$1,600.

A Five-Foot Party Board that included six flavors of summer sausage, six flavors of snack sausages and a variety of Wisconsin cheeses, provided by Brandon Meats & Sausage of Brandon, was purchased by Wells Fargo for \$1,700.

Throughout the day of the sale various Wisconsin State Fair vendors donated a portion of their sales to the Meat Productions Auction and Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. In total, over \$5,000 was donated by these generous vendors.

The auction is produced in partnership with the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and Wisconsin State Fair and the Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP). Generous supporters include Meijer, Egg Innovations, Salm Partners, Schenck SC, Wells Fargo Bank, Rupena's Fine Foods of Milwaukee, and Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors.



(L to R) Crystal Siemers-Peterman, Alice in Dairyland John Pagel (Pagel's Ponderosa, Ron's Wisconsin Cheese and John T. Pagel), Wytttenbach Meats of Prairie du Sac, Governor Scott Walker, Rebecca Starkenburg, Fairest of the Fair

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The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, based in Madison, WI, provides essential funding for 4-H programs throughout Wisconsin. By partnering with individuals, corporations and foundations, the Foundation supports more than 150,000 youth who take part in various 4-H leadership, developments, and

community-building activities throughout the state. Learn more about the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation by visiting www.Wis4-HFoundation.org.