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22nd Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction set for Aug. 6

Annual event recognizes Wisconsin food products and raises funds for Wisconsin 4-H activities and support; tickets now available.

Madison, Wis. [April 16, 2013] – The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation announces details for the 22nd Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Product Auction. The event, which recognizes superior Wisconsin food products and raises funds for Wisconsin 4-H activities, is set for Aug. 6 at the Wisconsin State Fair in the Ag Oasis at Wisconsin State Fair Park.

“The Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction is an exciting event for the state of Wisconsin, recognizing our vibrant meat industry and quality meat processing while supporting our future leaders,” says John Brunnuell, auction chair. “The 2013 auction is building on more than two decades of this quality combination of youth and industry and, with the excitement building for this year's event, we're hoping to surpass last year's record showing of 4-H support.”

The 22nd Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction will be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin State Fair Meat Products Contest coordinated by the Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors, UW-Madison Animal Science Department and the Wisconsin State Fair. Prior to the auction, meat processors will compete for champion awards that recognize superior Wisconsin food products. The contest's top 25 entries will make up the auction slate at the 22nd Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction to benefit Wisconsin's 4-H youth.

The evening is surrounded by Wisconsin pride as Governor Walker will be part of the auction process and winning bidders will receive a photo with him. The 66th Alice in Dairyland, Wisconsin Fairest of the Fairs as well as today's 4-H youth will be the evening hosts and hostesses. A special silent auction and entertainment also will be part of the evening's activities.

As the Foundation's signature fundraising event, funds raised through the auction support Wisconsin 4-H activities including 4-H conferences, teaching materials and workshops as well as overall leadership and development of 4-H youth – benefitting nearly 350,000 4-H youth across the state.

In 2012, the 21st Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction raised \$88,300 to support the 4-H program with the Best in Show entry selling for \$8,700. In addition to the support of product buyer's, high attendance levels also added to the total.

“Whether supporters attend the auction to see the winning products, to network with industry partners or to experience the excitement of the event, each attendee is supporting Wisconsin's youth and our state's future through 4-H,” Brunnuell adds.

All are invited to attend the Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction on Aug. 6. Gates for the event open at 5:00 p.m. and tickets are limited. The \$50 event ticket includes dinner, beverages, Wisconsin State

Fair admission and parking. Contact the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation at (608) 262-1597 or visit www.Wis4HFoundation.org to reserve your ticket by July 5.

Based in Madison, Wis., the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation provides essential funding for 4-H programs throughout Wisconsin. By partnering with individuals, corporations and foundations, the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation supports nearly 350,000 youth who take part in various 4-H leadership, development and community-building activities throughout the state. Learn more about the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation by visiting www.Wis4HFoundation.org.

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