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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction, benefitting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, Raised More Than \$110,000 for Wisconsin 4-H Youth**

*Milwaukee, WI.* (August 11, 2015) – The Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction raised more than \$110,000. Governor Walker hosted the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction benefitting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation with emcee Bob Meyer, Anchor of Brownfield Ag News.

The 2015 Best of Show Award went to meat processor Lake Geneva Country Meats. The company earned the honor for its Ultimate Bacon, a tasty combination of Canadian bacon wrapped in bacon, in the Wisconsin State Fair Meat Product Contest. The Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP) sponsored the competition. The Best in Show's Ultimate Bacon sold for \$20,000 to a consortium formed by Country Fresh Meats, Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps, Meijer Inc., Egg Innovations, Town Bank, Jim Reid, and Bob and Jill Nieskes.

Auctioneers for the evening were Bob Johnson, Gary Finley and Dave Koning.

The Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction benefitting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation results include:

**Grand Champion Flavored Bacon**

Made by: Haen Meat Packing Inc, Kaukauna  
Buyer: CRI  
Sale price: \$7,100

Generously donated back to the auction by CRI and resold to Poulson Farms for \$2,750.

**Reserve Grand Champion Flavored Bacon**

Made by: Brandon Meats and Sausage Inc., Brandon  
Buyer: Beechwood Sales  
Sale price: \$3,200.00

**Grand Champion Bone-in Ham**

Made by: Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva  
Buyer: Meijer, Inc.

Sale price: \$8,000

**Reserve Grand Bone-in Ham**

Made by: Rays Market, Colby

Buyer: Randy Schopen Memorial Foundation/Capn's Steak House

Sale price: \$4,000

Generously donated back to the auction by the Randy Schopen Memorial Foundation/ Capn's Steak House and resold to Daluge Travel for \$2,100.

**Grand Champion Flavored Summer Sausage**

Made by: Haen Meat Packing Inc., Kaukauna

Buyer: Saz's/GO Riteway /LeRoy Hauser Rural Mutual Insurance/ Boehlke Bottled Gas

Sale price: \$3,000

**Reserve Grand Flavored Summer Sausage**

Made by: Wyttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: UW Provisions

Sale price: \$ 2,500

Generously donated back to the auction by UW Provisions and resold to the Bob Arndt Family for \$1,500.

**Grand Champion Dried or Smoked Beef**

Made by: Sixth Street Market, Ashland

Buyer: Rural Mutual Insurance

Sale price: \$3,100.00

Generously donated back to the auction by Rural Mutual Insurance and resold to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Board of Directors Consortium for \$2,000.

**Reserve Grand Dried or Smoked Beef**

Made by: Haen Meat Packing Inc, Kaukauna

Buyer: Hartmann Sand and Gravel

Sale price: \$2,100

**Grand Champion Flavored Snack Sausages**

Made by: Olson's Woodville Meats, Woodville

Buyer: Egg Innovations and Bob & Jill Nieskes

Sale price: \$2,300

Generously donated back to the auction by Egg Innovations and Bob & Jill Nieskes and resold to Wisconsin Souvenir Milk Caps for \$1,250.

**Reserve Grand Flavored Snack Sausages**

Made by: Lodi Sausage Company and Meat Market, Lodi

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sale price: \$1,400

Generously donated back to the auction by Country Fresh Meats and resold to Saz's for \$750.

**Grand Champion Specialty Cooked Bratwurst**

Made by: Kewaskum Frozen Foods, Kewaskum

Buyer: Saz's/GO Riteway /LeRoy Hauser Rural Mutual Insurance/ Boehlke Bottled Gas

Sale price: \$4,100

**Reserve Grand Specialty Cooked Bratwurst**

Made by: Fox Brothers Piggly Wiggly, Oconomowoc

Buyer: Beechwood Sales

Sale price: \$1,250

**Grand Champion Specialty Game Meats**

Made by: Northwoods Locker LLC, Clayton

Buyer: Egg Innovations, Bob & Jill Nieskes and Tim & Brenda Lobdell

Sale price: \$1,750.00

Generously donated back to the auction by Egg Innovations, Bob & Jill Nieskes, and Tim & Brenda Lobdell and resold to Badgerland Financial for \$1,100.

**Reserve Grand Specialty Game Meats**

Made by: Wisconsin River Meats, Mauston

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sale price: \$1,750.00

**Grand Champion Cured Specialty Product**

Made by: Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva

Buyer: Wisconsin Souvenir Milk Caps

Sale price: \$4,000

**Reserve Grand Champion Cured Specialty Product**

Made by: Northwoods Locker LLC, Clayton

Buyer: Crane Farms

Sale price: \$1,250

Four other items were auctioned including a Wisconsin-shaped summer sausage made by Kewaskum Frozen Foods and purchased by Merwin Farms for \$1900; a Badger Football package donated by Big Gain Feeds and purchased by Schaefer Grading for \$1100; a five-foot party board made by Brandon Meats and Sausage and purchased by Jim Reid for \$2250, and a twenty-pound block of cheese made by Mike Matucheski of Sartori Cheese, the reigning Grand Master Cheese Maker, purchased by Gibbsville Implement for \$1600.

The auction is produced in partnership with the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and Wisconsin State Fair. Generous sponsors include Schenck SC, Rupena's Fine Foods and Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP)

Thank you to the following food concession vendors at the Wisconsin State Fair who donated a portion of their sales on UW Extension Day, August 11 to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. They include Bo Alan LLC, Double K Dairy Products, Dr. Vegetable Inc, F & W Concessions Inc, Grebe's Bakery, Island Noodles WI & MN Inc, La Coppa LLC, LPW Door County Fish Boil LLC, Marchant Concessions, Miller Bakery Inc, Original Cream Puff Bakers LLC, Pinn-Oak Ridge Farms LLC, Prairie Farms Dairy, Saz's Festival LLC, Sidewalk Sundee, Sil's Mini Donuts LLC, Wisconsin Apple Growers Association and Wisconsin Pork Association.

Finally, thank you to John Brunnquell and Jim Reid who generously added additional dollars to each record breaking bid during the auction, nine in all.

The auction's proceeds promote 4-H youth programs throughout the state, county and local communities which provide the real-world skills that prepare them for challenges they'll face in the future. Today, the 4-H Foundation supports numerous development programs, helps fund attendance at national competitions and conferences, and grants college scholarships to support 4-H youth in continuing their education after high school.

The Madison-based 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 more than 350,000 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.wis4hfoundation.org](http://www.wis4hfoundation.org).

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