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Pictured Included



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

Madison, Wis. (August 10, 2016) – The Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction at the Wisconsin State Fair celebrated its 25th 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, WDLB radio, Marshfield, WI. Auctioneers for the evening were Bob Johnson, Milton; Gary Finley, Walworth and Jim Gavin, the 2016 Champion of the Wisconsin Auctioneer's Association Competition, from Baraboo. In addition, serving as the auctions ringmen were past champions of the Wisconsin Champion Ringman competition including David Allen, 2016 Champion; Kendall Thiel, 2015 Champion; Rodney Freymiller, 2010 Champion, David Koning, 2007 Champion, Tim Slack, Wisconsin Auctioneers Association Past President, WAA Hall of FAME and Past Champion Auctioneer, Scott Vorpapel, President of Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors, Ben Brancel, Secretary of Agriculture and Scott Gunderson.

The 2016 Best of Show Award went to meat processor Maplewood Meats of Green Bay. The company earned the honor for its Flavored Summer Sausage. It sold for \$13,500 to a consortium formed by Country Fresh Meats, Bob & Jill Nieskes, Wells Fargo, Egg Innovations.

The Grand Champion, Reserve Grand and 2nd Reserve Grand Champion Winners for the categories are:

FLAVORED BACON

Grand Champion

Haen Meat Packing Inc., Kaukauna

Buyer: Meijer

Sales Price: \$8,500

*Generously donated back and resold to Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps for \$3,500.

Reserve Grand Champion

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

Buyer: Klements Sausage

Sales Price: \$3,250

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Wytttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: Poulson Farms

Sales Price: \$2,250

BONE-IN HAM

Grand Champion

Wytttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: Riteway Bus, Boehlke Bottled Gas, LeRoy Haeuser Rural Mutual Insurance, Cousins Subs, Saz's

Sales Price: \$3,750

Reserve Grand Champion

Nolecheck's Meats, Inc., Thorp

Buyer: UW Provisions

Sales Price: \$3,000

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Maplewood Meats, Green Bay

Buyer: Crane Farms

Sales Price: \$1,900

FLAVORED SUMMER SAUSAGE

Grand Champion

Maplewood Meats, Green Bay

Buyer: Bob and Jill Nieskes

Sales Price: \$3,500

Reserve Grand Champion

Haen Meat Packing Inc., Kaukauna

Buyer: Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps

Sales Price: \$2,000

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Brandon Meats & Sausage, Inc., Brandon

Buyer: Schenck SC

Sales Price: \$2,250

DRIED OR SMOKED BEEF

Grand Champion

Sailor's Food Market and Meat, Elmwood

Buyer: \$3,300 (including a \$150 each from Egg Innovations and Jim Reid)

Sales Price: Rural Mutual Insurance

*Generously donated back and resold to Valerie Johnson, Renk Seed, Marcy Tessman and Laura Herschleb for \$1,500.

Reserve Grand Champion

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

Buyer: \$1,700

Sales Price: Daluge Travel

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Sixth Street Market, Ashland

Buyer: Randy Schopen Foundation

Sales Price: \$1,500

TRADITIONAL SNACK SAUSAGES

Grand Champion

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

Buyer: Egg Innovations

Sales Price: \$2,400

Reserve Grand Champion

Wilson Farm Meats, Elkhorn

Buyer: Walworth County Meat Eater, Town Bank, Hull Farms

Sales Price: \$3,000

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Wytttenbach Meats, Prairie du Sac

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sales Price: \$2,000

*Generously donated back and resold to Wilson Farm Meats for \$1,000.

SPECIALTY COOKED BRATWURST

Grand Champion

Kewaskum Frozen Foods, Kewaskum

Buyer: Cousins Subs, Riteway Bus, Leroy Haeuser, Rural Mutual Insurance, Saz's, Boehlke Bottle Gas

Sales Price: \$4,500

Reserve Grand Champion

Country Fresh Meats, Weston

Buyer: Cooperative Resources International (CRI)

Sales Price: \$3,750

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

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

Buyer: Badgerland Financial

Sales Price: \$1,000

WHOLE MUSCLE JERKY

Grand Champion

Eden Meat Market, Eden

Buyer: Cooperative Resources International (CRI)

Sales Price: \$1,250

Reserve Grand Champion

Louie's Finer Meats, Cumberland

Buyer: Schenck

Sales Price: \$2,000

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Haen Meat Packing, Kaukauna

Buyer: Country Fresh Meats

Sales Price: \$1,000

*Generously donated back and resold to J&S Machine, Inc. for \$1,000.

CURED SPECIALITY MEAT PRODUCT

Grand Champion – Ultimate Bacon

Lake Geneva Country Meats, Lake Geneva

Buyer: Merwin Farms and Town Bank

Sales Price: \$4,300

Reserve Grand Champion – Italian Salami with Wine

Kewaskum Frozen Foods, Kewaskum

Buyer: Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps

Sales Price: \$1,600

2nd Reserve Grand Champion – Italian Salami with Wine

Northwoods Locker, LLC, Clayton

Buyer: Daluge Travel

Sales Price: \$800

RING BOLOGNA

Grand Champion

Maplewood Meats, Green Bay

Buyer: Gibbsville Implement

Sales Price: \$2,000

Reserve Grand Champion

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

Buyer: Meijer Food Stores

Sales Price: \$1,250

*Generously donated back and resold to Riteway Bus Company for \$500.

2nd Reserve Grand Champion

Haen Meat Packing, Inc. Kaukauna

Buyer: Wisconsin Souvenir Milkcaps

Sales Price: \$1,600

Three 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 Dairy Promotion Board, was purchased by Meijer's Food Stores for \$5,250. Meijer generously donated the product back and it was purchased by Hartman Sand & Gravel and Egg Innovations for \$4,000.

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 \$3,800. Wells Fargo generously donated the product back and it was purchased by Jim Reid for \$3,250.

Montchevré-Betin, a block of Blueberry Vanilla Goat Cheese named the Grand Champion Cheese at the 2015 Wisconsin State Fair made by Jean Rossard, Belmont, WI, was purchased by Wilson Farm Meats for \$1,000.

Throughout UW Extension Day, more than 30 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 sponsors include Meijer, Egg Innovations, Jill and Bob Nieskes, Schenck SC, Wells Fargo Bank, Rupena's Fine Foods of Milwaukee, U.S. Cellular and Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors.



The 2016 Best of Show Award, Flavored Summer Sausage, Maplewood Meats of Green Bay. It sold for \$13,500 to a consortium formed by Country Fresh Meats, Bob & Jill Nieskes, Wells Fargo, Egg Innovations.

Dignitaries-

Ann O'Leary, Alice in Dairyland, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, Gloria Kessler, 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.