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4-H youth seek buyers for livestock

Champion auctioneer will 'spur on' bidders at County Fair junior auction, July 25

Littleton, Colo. --- Dozens of 4-H youth have spent the better part of a year raising, grazing and tending to lambs, hogs, goats, poultry and steers in preparation for the 2009 Arapahoe County Fair Junior Livestock Auction, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, July 25.

Citizens and businesses are encouraged to attend, bid on and buy these market animals in support of local youth. Steve Linnebur, 2009 Colorado State Champion Auctioneer, will offer his tongue-twisting fast-talking talents to preside over the sale and encourage bidding.

This event provides a unique opportunity for community members to purchase premium meat straight from 'the farm', while rewarding local youth for dedicating time, talent and funds to learn the trade of raising a market animal. Proceeds of each sale will go directly to individual 4-H members to help recoup the costs of raising an animal and to invest in their future education.

Buying an animal can stock your home freezer with top-quality meat, help you throw that barbecue or block party, or give a one-of-a-kind gift that shows your community support. 4-H participants follow quality production practices in nutrition, health, care and handling of their livestock to assure the meat meets high quality standards.

Join in the fun and bid on your favorite! Call Kath O'Malley at 303-261-7743 to request a bidder package by mail and tickets to the pre-auction buyers' barbeque, or simply register before the auction to receive a bidder number and an animal sale list. As each animal is led into the ring, Linnebur will suggest a bid in dollars per head. Bid by raising your hand. The highest bidder buys the animal, signs the sale slip and selects from the following three options to manage their purchase:

- 1) Take home – Take the animal home or to a packer of your choice. Note you are responsible for transporting the animal and contacting the packer with cutting instructions.
- 2) Packing plant – This option lets you put meat directly in your freezer. Receive steaks, brisket, chops, roasts and more already cut, trimmed, wrapped, frozen and ready to enjoy.
- 3) Buy back – This option is best if you want to make a donation to the youth participant for the purchase price of the animal, without having to take the meat home or make arrangements with a meat processing plant.

For more information about the livestock auction, please call the 4-H Office, 303-730-1920.

The Arapahoe County Fair (25690 E. Quincy Ave, Aurora) offers an incredible value with \$10 admission that includes *all* concerts, activities and entertainment— from rodeos to demolition derbies— except for carnival rides and games. Upgrade your ticket with unlimited carnival rides for just \$5 Wednesday - Thursday and \$10 Friday – Sunday.

The 2009 Fair is sponsored by Waste Management, City of Aurora, E-470, City of Littleton, Potestio Bros., Royal Crest Dairy, Tagawa Gardens, Go Toyota Scion, Sinton Dairy, Radio Disney, Wolf 92.5 FM, 99.5 the Mountain, Mix 100 FM, *The Villager* and *Aurora Sentinel*.

Want to get more involved? Be a volunteer at the Fair. Call 303-738-7938.

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To download a photo, please click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/pub/cm/4-H/LivestockAuction>

Caption: 4-H member shows her prize steer during the Arapahoe County Fair Junior Livestock Auction.