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## **Lil' ranchers wrangle in buyers for their livestock** *Arapahoe County 4-H Livestock Auction raises almost \$60,000*

**Littleton, Colo.** --- Forty-two community leaders, businesses and citizens raised their hand (I mean bid paddle) in an effort to support Arapahoe County's 4-H youth who spent the better part of a year raising and tending to chickens, lambs, hogs, goats and steers in preparation for the 2008 Arapahoe County Fair Youth Livestock Auction.

The Auction sold 69 animals and raised a total of \$59,228. First-time buyers mingled with veterans including King Soopers and Guaranty Bank who have made purchases every year since 1982 (that's as far back as records go).

"The livestock auction is where all of a kid's hard work and dedication is rewarded," said Dale Edwards, Arapahoe County Colorado State University Extension Division Manager. "It's the generosity of our buyers, many of whom are not in the "meat-buying" business, who continue to support a 4-H'er's ability to participate in our agricultural history."

There aren't many places where businesses and citizens can bid and buy premium meat straight from the farm nowadays but the Arapahoe County Fair continues this tradition as a way for youth learning the trade to be rewarded for dedicating their time, talent and substantial funds in raising a market animal. They follow quality production practices in nutrition, health, care and handling of their livestock to assure the meat meets high quality standards.

If you would like to become a livestock buyer at the 2009 Arapahoe County Fair or would like more information about 4-H, call 303-730-1920.

### **2008 Arapahoe County Youth Livestock Buyers**

The Grand Champion Steer, owned by Kacie Arnold of Strasburg, was purchased by Steer Bucks for \$2,700 with an additional \$900 donation.

Cross Country Pipeline purchased the Reserve Grand Champion Steer shown by Travis Jackson for \$2,300, the Reserve Grand Champion hog shown by Jonathan Cretti of Bennett for \$1,500, and an additional \$1,500 on a lamb and hog.

The Grand Champion Hog, shown by Brice Hanlon of Strasburg, was purchased by Valley Bank & Trust for \$1,675, which also purchased another hog for \$500.

John Cavey spent \$2,100 on two lambs including the Grand Champion Market Lamb from Clinton Pisel of Deer Trail for \$1,300.

Jonathan Cretti, of Bennett, sold the Reserve Grand Champion Lamb to Guaranty Bank for \$750, which also purchased two swine for \$1,100.

O'Malley's Mercantile purchased the Grand Champion Market Goat shown by Rhett Crismon of Bennett for \$475 and donated an additional \$1,500.

Arapahoe County Commissioner Frank Weddig purchased the Grand Champion Pen of Poultry from Heather Crismon of Bennett for \$400.

The Reserve Grand Champion Pen of Poultry, shown by Mitchell Stoumbaugh of Deer Trail, was purchased by Byers General Store for \$350. The Store also purchased a lamb and provided a \$700 donation for a total of \$1,450.

**Other Buyers Include:**

American Pride Coop - \$840 donation  
Dale & Bonnie Arnold - \$628 swine  
Arrow Stage Lines - \$1,600 beef  
Big Hoss Grill - \$885 sheep  
Big R of Elizabeth - \$550 swine  
Bijou Hay & Livestock - \$475 swine  
Bijou Telephone - \$1,835 swine and beef  
Byers America - \$250 donation  
Colorado First National Bank - \$2,975 sheep, swine, beef and donation  
Corner Gas - \$450 sheep  
Deer Trail Locker & Corner Gas - \$800 swine  
John Duncan - \$575 swine and donation  
DMI International - \$4,000 beef  
Flagler Coop - \$525 sheep  
High Plains Bank - \$2,000 beef  
IREA - \$4,650 donation (\$25 per 4-H'er who exhibited at the Fair)  
JV Mechanical - \$450 sheep

King Soopers - \$1,225 two swine  
Living Springs Veterinary Clinic - \$1,450 two swine and poultry trio  
LuLu's - \$1,800 swine  
MacLennan Lambs - \$380 donation  
Metro Wastewater - \$1,460 swine and two sheep  
Vickie Meyer - \$475 sheep  
New West Paving - \$2,000 beef  
Mike & Eva Pugh - \$675 swine  
Rocky Mountain Propane - \$7,450 three swine, two sheep, beef and donation  
Royal Borel - \$425 sheep  
Skip's Maintenance - \$450 donation  
Strasburg Veterinary Clinic - \$600 swine  
The Bluffs - \$1,400 beef  
Vahalla - \$400 sheep  
John & Katy Vincent - \$475 sheep  
Westward Fence - \$650 swine  
Dr. Fred Williams - \$500 sheep

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**To download photos click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CA/>**

*Photo captions:*

Kacie Arnold shows off her Grand Champion steer at the 2008 Arapahoe County Fair Youth Livestock Auction.

Tyler Vallin uses creativity during the Arapahoe County Livestock Auction, asking sponsors to fill his piggy bank.