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Media Contact

Genevieve Clarke
Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
(406) 758-2800

4-H & FFA MARKET LIVESTOCK SALE BREAKS ANOTHER RECORD

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20 - The Trade Center Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds was buzzing with activity before the sun came up on Saturday as local 4-H and FFA students were busy preparing hogs, lambs, and steers for the Market Livestock Sale. Students, instructors, organizers, volunteers, parents, and more had been working toward the sale for months. With a fall return to in-person purchasing, the stands were packed full of excited supporters with active bidder cards waving feverishly.

Kicking off the sale of 808 total animals, Tracie McIntyre sold his Grand Champion Hog to Les Schwab Evergreen for \$11.00 per pound and Kylee Goddiveau sold her Reserve Champion Hog to Trailhead Church for \$14.75 per pound. The average price per pound for Hogs was \$13.72 for a total of \$171,645.

For sheep, Lella Targent sold her Grand Champion Sheep to Levine & Co. for \$46.00 per pound and Haley McMillan sold her Reserve Champion Lamb for \$23.50 per pound to Les Schwab Center Street. The average price per pound was \$31.91 for a total of \$81,800.75.

Wrapping up the sale, Grand Champion Dillon Inzetti sold his 2022 Grand Champion Steer to Sandy Construction for \$7.75 per pound and Reserve Champion Hayden Brunton sold his steer to Super 1 Foods for \$6.38 per pound. The average price per pound was \$4.87 for a total of \$294,525.

By the end of the event, a record 353 unique buyers, 98 more than in 2021, had registered and a grand total of \$967,796.75 was raised, an increase of \$170,542.25 over last year's sale total. Students who raise each animal get to keep all of the money they make from the sale and many use the money to purchase an animal for next year or start a savings account.

The annual sale has been organized by FFA, 4-H, the Northwest Montana Fair, and the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce for over 60 years.