

# Carroll 4-H Livestock Sale Brings More Than \$111,000

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Md.—Carroll County's recent livestock sale grossed nearly \$111,500, but the average price per animal was down from previous years, organizers said.

The annual sale offered a few goats and numerous sheep, swine and cattle to businesses and individuals in and around Carroll.

Becky Geiman, wife of sale vice chairman David Geiman, said the number of steers sold at the auction declined this year.

Sheep and swine offered for sale increased, but prices were down across the board, Becky Geiman said.

She said a sudden downpour in the middle of the sale didn't appear to affect prices or sale progress.

Many people left the fairgrounds in droves after the storm about 9 p.m. on Aug. 4. But participants at the livestock sale—one of the long-awaited highlights of the annual fair—"just moved inside, out of the rain," Geiman said.

The champion market goat, owned by Jason Ridinger, brought \$1.10 per pound for a total of \$71.50. The goat was purchased by Southern States' Westminster Cooperative.

Sheep sales totaled \$21,651 for 61 animals—excluding the champion and reserve champion. An average of \$2.73 per pound was paid.

The sale was marked by price variety with pronounced differences even between the champion and reserve champion animals.

The grand champion market lamb, shown by Brett Fogle, brought an incredible \$11.50 per pound.

Miller Asphalt Products paid \$3.50 per pound for the reserve champion—a pair of market lambs exhibited by John Norris.

Thirty-six steers brought \$59,792—excluding the champion and reserve. Cattle averaged \$1.23 per pound.

Swine brought \$28,714, excluding the top two prize winners. Fifty-three hogs averaged \$1.95 per pound.

Monica Feeser of Taneytown was the proud owner of the fair's grand champion steer and the grand champion hog.

Her 1,135-pound steer was purchased at \$3.25 per pound by Giant Foods of Landover, Md.

Masonry Contractors Inc. paid \$5.50 per pound for Monica's 250 pound hog.

The reserve champion hog was sold by Katie Henley for \$4.25 per pound to Strawbridge Construction.

The reserve champion steer, owned by Kristen Lewis, went to Frederick County National Bank for \$1.50 per pound.

Exhibiting and selling the fair's top steer and hog at the same time was not a first for 19-year-old Monica Feeser.

But landing the honor once more in this, her final year as a 4-H'er, was quite a thrill, Monica said.

She has exhibited the grand champion steer five times at the Carroll fair, most recently in 1992, she said.

For the past three years, one of Monica's hogs walked away with the county fair's grand champion honors. Monica also brought the champion hog to the fair on two additional occasions.

When it comes to raising winning steers and swine, choosing "the right animal" is the key, Monica said.

"If you have good genetics and the right environment, they're going to grow and produce like they need to," she said.

Monica is well-versed in the importance of genetics.

Her parents, Julie and Franklin Feeser, own and operate Feeser Genetics. The family currently has 200 sows. Their second business, Carousel Angus, has about 60 head of Angus cattle—half of which are Monica's.

Monica has been raising her own cattle since shortly after she began showing beef. Her 1991 grand champion was the progeny of one of her own bulls, she said.

She has also been showing sheep since her first year in 4-H. One of her animals earned a grand champion at state fair.

But the cattle are Monica's pride and joy "because that's something I began on my own," she said.

Monica starts working with her cattle early in the spring. Once school lets out, she rinses the animals daily and spends even more time getting them used to the halter.

She said she's always played favorites, lavishing attention on the one animal—usually a steer—

that catches her eye.

This year, Monica missed most of the spring cattle shows due to school obligations. She's just starting her sophomore year as an animal science major at Kansas State University.

Monica said with all that missed time, she expected her steers to be "giddy" at the county fair.

Fortunately, her concentrated work with them these last few months helped keep them firmly in hand, she said.

"I expect the cattle to do well," Monica said. "But I'm still surprised if they do. And if they do, it makes me really happy and proud."

Her success at national shows has not quite caught up with her success at the county level, so when Monica does have a champion steer in the county lineups, "it's really exciting," she said.

She has learned to concentrate so completely that the other competitors melt away and "it's just me and the judge in the ring," she said.

"If the bleachers fell down, I wouldn't even know it," she said.

"And you're sitting there the whole time thinking, 'Oh God, please choose me,'" Monica said.

Monica said she will miss 4-H—the challenge of showing, the support of good friends.

But her involvement with the organization will continue.

Her 8-year-old twin cousins, Candace and Brandy, showed lambs this year and may tackle hogs next year.

An only child, Monica said "It's exciting to me to see that somebody else in my family is taking an interest in 4-H's livestock program."

She plans to continue working with her cousins.

The vice president of the Mary-

land Junior Angus Association and member of the National Junior Angus Board said she also plans to show cattle with that organization until the group's age limit, 21.

Monica is an active member of the American Angus Association.

In addition, she belongs to Block and Bridle, the campus livestock club at Kansas State, and is an agriculture ambassador for the school.

## Wayne County Holds Livestock Sale

**HONSDALE (Wayne Co.)**—Outdoing itself this year in dollars, numbers, and in community spirit, the Wayne County Junior Livestock Sale sold 311 4-H market animals.

Local business people, parents, and friends turned out in record numbers to support its youth by bidding on market hogs, lambs, and steers recently at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.

The first animal presented for auction was the 228-pound grand champion hog raised by Shanna Johnson, an eighth grader belonging to the Up North Crew 4-H Club. The hog was purchased by Dr. Henry Nebzydoski, Pleasant Mount veterinarian, for a record \$8.50/pound. Nebzydoski announced that he was returning the

pig to be resold at the end of the sale to benefit the Gately family, a Wayne County 4-H family recently plagued by health problems. Arthur Gately, the father, is recovering from heart surgery, while Linda Gately, the mother of 4-H'ers Arthur and Anthony, received a double lung transplant during the week of the fair.

As the sale progressed, other businesses and individuals returned a total of 12 pigs and eight lambs for resale for the benefit of the Gately's, the Cavage Kidney Transplant Fund, and the Wayne County 4-H program.

Other champions sold at auction were the reserve grand champion hog raised by Chris Ellis of

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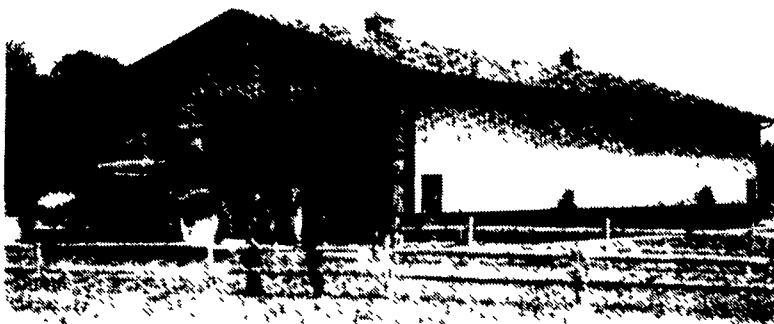


Dr. Henry Nebzydoski and Shanna Johnson with the grand champion hog.



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