



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Date: 9/1/16

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### **JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION RESULTS IN LARGE FOOD BANK DONATION**

Weld County, CO – Following the 2016 Weld County Fair, the Weld County Junior Livestock Auction kicked off, where roughly 245 kids presented their prized livestock for sale. This event was more than just a sale, however, according to Michael Frink, Chairman of the Junior Livestock Sale Committee: "The Junior Livestock Sale gives the opportunity for members to make extra money that hopefully can be used to go to college or to prepare themselves to go into production agriculture in the near future." More than \$700,000 worth of livestock was sold this year, stated Frink.

"It's great to see all the work these 4H kids put in throughout the year pay off," stated Commissioner Julie Cozad, coordinator for Extension Services this year. "Its hard work, and these kids did an exceptional job."

The Junior Livestock Auction routinely results in large amounts of meat donations to the Weld Food Bank, and this year was no exception. According to Frink, who has held the chair position for seven years, "This is the biggest contribution the sale has provided the food bank. We started this approximately five years ago, and it has continued to grow." After this year's sale, the Weld Food Bank received over 2,600 lbs of pork, 9,000 lbs of beef, 700 lbs of lamb, and 600 lbs of goat from the sale alone--a total of over 13,000 lbs of meat.

Weston Edmunds, the communications manager for the Weld Food Bank, noted the importance of donations made from this event: "The Junior Livestock Sale is a big contributor. They are our most consistent donor from livestock sales." Additionally, the donations from the sale provide the food bank with a crucial food item: "Meat is the hardest item for us to find" said Edmunds, "Community members always request it, so we really appreciate the donations from this sale."

According to Edmunds, the food bank's kitchen plans on using the meat for homemade dishes like lasagna, but may have their chef create new recipes to utilize this massive meat donation. The Weld Food Bank facility boasts a 17,000 cubic foot freezer, where the donated meat will be kept until it can be used.

"These donations are incredible," said Keith Maxey, Director of CSU Extension Weld, "And these livestock buyers are so appreciated—their purchases and their donations make a huge impact in our community."

Find out more about the Junior Livestock Auction at [www.weldcountyfair.com](http://www.weldcountyfair.com)

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