



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Otsego County

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Susan Carver
(607) 547-2536 x 225
sac65@cornell.edu

For Immediate Release
June 18, 2008

AREA BUSINESSES SUPPORT 4-H

Through the support of local business, farms and 4-H families the Otsego County 4-H Dairy Program found financial support to continue to provide youth with educational programs. Each year the Otsego County 4-H Dairy Science Issue Committee volunteers plan, organize, and provide a multitude of dairy education programs to local 4-H members.

The weekend of May 17 brought of hands on learning together with fundraising to provide an array of experiences to Otsego County 4-H dairy members as they ventured to conduct their third annual Calf Sale and Silent Auction. Preparations for this weekend started months ago when adult volunteers and many teen 4-H members secured donations of calves, supplies, and items for a silent auction. Amy and Zack Proskine, 4-H volunteers, developed this program three years ago to meet the increasing need to provide financial support to all Otsego County 4-H Dairy Programs. This event combines a 4-H Dairy Fitting and Showmanship Clinic (where the youth learn how to prepare an animal for the show ring and the proper way of showing a dairy calf) with a calf auction which raises funds for the many local, regional, state and national events Otsego County 4-H dairy youths participate in.

The Proskine's worked tirelessly as they make arrangements for the calf sale by obtaining 38 calves, making arrangements to use the Otsego County Fairgrounds, securing trucking and feed not to mention organizing the fitting and showmanship clinic where approximately 75 youth learn how to properly fit and show a dairy animal. While their efforts are supported by many volunteers from throughout the county, it is only through Amy and Zack's countless hours of organization and financial support that the weekend comes together.

Last year Beverly Fagon, 4-H volunteer, began a silent auction as 4-H families and community members expressed a desire to help provide financial support but who did not have the desire to purchase a calf. Through the efforts of a Silent Auction committee, which included Becky Barringer, Bev Fagon, and Jennifer Truax as well as 4-H members Meghan Barringer, Alexis Joy, and Nathan Truax, the silent auction proved to be an even greater success this year.

It is with great appreciation that we thank these businesses for their support through the donation of items for the silent auction: Cooperstown Agway, Cooperstown Fun Park, and Schneider's Bakery - Cooperstown; Round House Mill - Cortland; A.C. Hoyt Hardware, Davis Nursery LLC, and Spike's Pizza - Edmeston; Bennett Motor Sales - Fly Creek; Don's Slaughter House - Laurens; Mt Vision Garden Center - Mount Vision; Big M, Card's Auto Parts, Classic Cuts, Curtis Lumber, NAPP, Homestead Feed, NY Pizzeria, Perfect Solution Gift & Florist Shop, - New Berlin; Country Max, North Norwich Motors & Trailer Sales, Norwich Dodge, Sidney Federal Credit Union, and Smith Ford LLC - Norwich; Annutto's Farm Stand, A.O. Fox Hospital, Brooks' Bar-B-Q, Card\$mart, Cazenovia Equipment, Dairy Queen, The Eighth Note, Holiday Lanes, Interskate 88, Munson Building Supply, NAPA, Price Chopper, Subway, Tractor Supply Center, Sport Tech, and Wal-Mart - Oneonta; LT Tables & Stuff - Sherburne.

We also thank the silent auction donations from many individuals including: Alison Aikins, Mehan & Samantha Barringer and Family, Dan Butts, Sheila Eldred, Logan Eltz, Sean Galley and Family, Douglas Hill, Bonnie Hren, Bev Holcombe, Alexis Joy and Family, The Kraham Family, Rich McCaffery, John Mellor, Carol Miller, Scarlett Newman, Calab, Sheridan, & Stephanie Parker and Family, Sarah Rathbun, Linda Rowe, Sadra Smith, Kaleigh Spencer, Jessie & Nathan Truax and Family, Avis Waite, Frank Wenz, and Ashton Wheeldon.

A special thank you is also sent out to the following farms and individuals for their consignment of calves and semen: Bakers Dream Farm, Rick & Amanda Baker; Butternut Farms, Don & Beverly Holcomb; Chenango-Lake Farm, Alynn Proskine; Clare-A-Den Farm, Dennis & Claire Michaud; Cooperstown Holstein, Jennifer Huntington; Country Palace Holsteins, Craig Countryman; Dar-Ker Farm, Darrin & Kerry Nesbitt; Green Acres, Ruth Shumway and Virginia Worthman; Jim Gagnon, Accelerated Genetics; Jeff Hill, Semex; Bob Knapp, Alta Genetics; Zack Proskine, Excalibur Sires; and Jim Wood, Alta Genetics.

###