

Times News Column 9/5/23 - Juab Jr. Livestock Show Buyers & Boosters Thank You

The Indoor Barn was buzzing during the 2023 Juab County Fair; with excited, anticipating, and carefree youth and an assortment of calm-cool and collected or high-blood pressure and pacing parents. The livestock were settled into the barn on Tuesday the morning of August 8th and the fun commenced from there on out through the rest of fair week. Fitting and Showmanship started off the 2023 Juab Jr. Livestock Show when youth competed for Top Showman in their respective age divisions. Animals were shined up and looked like they were ready for a night on the town, and the youth cleaned up nicely as well. A summer's hard work was about to pay off when the youth had the opportunity to prove to the judge how dedicated and hard working they are, presenting their livestock as poised and proper as they could. Little old Juab County sure impressed the Oklahoma Judge. Many compliments were given.

Thursday was Market day. For some a tad bit less stressful than the previous day, but equally as much at stake. The judging started at 8am and throughout the day many champions were crowned. Long months of feeding, exercising, and endless time were spent preparing youths' 4-H and FFA livestock projects to be judged on market animal quality. Programs like these not only instill work ethic and commitment of time into kids, but they also prepare youth to be future Agriculturalists; those who are the future of feeding America.

In participating in the 4-H Livestock Program and FFA, youth are providing quality protein locally as well as across the nation. Livestock Animals purchased during the auction are sourced by locals looking to fill their freezers, businesses wanting to support youth in their projects, and floor buyers that fill semi loads of animals to fill orders from across the nation. These youth are already feeding people, involved in agriculture, and are learning what it takes to remain there.

So, we say thank you. Thank you to every single individual that supports these kids. The task at their hands is a difficult one; to become responsible and be the primary steward of another life at a young age is not something that every person can handle. These kids are gritty and their hard work is very rewarding because of the people that support them.

Buyers and Boosters, thank you more than you know for your support of these kids. You reward them financially for their efforts, but what you might not realize is that you could be contributing to putting a youth through secondary education, providing them with important life-changing opportunities, and many other things. But most of all, you are ensuring that the future of Agriculture in Juab County is bright. In supporting these kids, you are enabling them to be able to continue in these programs, with their livestock projects, and in agriculture.

Thank you endlessly for your continued support. Thank you for backing these youth.

With Gratitude,

Hailey Richins, Juab County Extension Livestock Coordinator
4-H & FFA Youth
Anyone that eats