



July 10, 2025

Dear Friend of 4-H,

We are thrilled to invite you to the Kalamazoo County 4-H Livestock Auction held during the Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase the week of August $4^{th} - 9^{th}$, 2025. This year's auction will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025.

For our 4-H members, the auction represents the end of a year's worth of hard work and dedication to agriculture and responsible animal husbandry. In addition to investing their time, energy, and care into their animal projects, they have also developed a sense of the financial responsibility for raising and selling livestock. When our members sell their animals at the fair, they put the money they've earned back into their project to replenish the cost of completing it. They also save for next year's project and expenses like improvements to their barns and purchasing necessary supplies. Many of our 4-Hers also save a portion of these funds for college, so your purchase goes directly into the present, and the future, of these young adults.

Because your impact has the potential to be so significant, our buyers are honored guests at the event. Be sure to join us for lunch catered by Barrett's Smokehouse. If you know anyone else who would like to come alongside our 4-Hers in financial support on this important day, please contact the 4-H office at 269-383-8830 with their contact information so that we may provide them with an invitation.

Before the Auction

For your convenience, you have been pre-registered for this year's auction. Upon arrival, please check in at the pre-registration table to pick up your buyer number and lunch tickets. Any edits to your contact information can be made at that time.

Auction

9 a.m. - Check-in & Registration opens and continues throughout the day.

10 a.m. - Small Animal Auction begins (1. Goats, 2. Poultry, 3. Rabbits)

Noon - Lunch provided for registered buyers

1 p.m. - Large Animal Auction begins (1. Swine, 2. Sheep, 3. Beef/Dairy Beef/Feeder Calves)

- If you are sharing a purchase, the cost may be split by percentage only (i.e. 50%/50%), not whole dollars.
- Buyers' groups MUST have one point person responsible to get a buyer number for the group, collect all money, submit it to 4-H and issue receipts to the buyers. Submit copies of the receipts to the 4-H office for members of the group to be recognized as individual buyers.

After the Auction

Before you leave, check out with the clerks at the registration table to pay and make arrangements for your purchase. Payment can be made via cash or check made payable to LSA (Livestock Superintendents Association). Any balances not paid within 60 days will be charged a 2% monthly fee. Buyers with outstanding balances after 3 months are not able to purchase at future auctions and collection actions will be taken.

Sheep, beef and swine will be harvested at Pease Packing in Scotts and may be further processed by Barrett's Smokehouse, Byron Center Meats, Galesburg Meats or Marshall Meats. The buyer is responsible for animal harvest fee and final processing fees. Buyers need to select the final processor and will need to contact them to give them a requested cut sheet for further processing. All carcass hogs and lambs sold in the auction are standard cut at Pease packing due to the carcass competition being held the previous week

Poultry and rabbits will be processed at Smokin' Butcher and will need to be **picked up at V & V Quality Meats** in Kalamazoo by September 11, 2025. Animals not picked up by then will be donated to local food banks.

Animal Resale will be available this year. Base prices for sheep and swine will be posted the day of the sale.

Animal Donation -Animals may also be donated to help those in need.

Add-on donations- If you prefer not to purchase an animal or miss out on buying from a specific youth, but want to support a 4-H'er, a lump sum donation can be made by completing the information form at https://forms.gle/1Zn83EQZ7SxZ4s5p8 or scanning the QR code. Add-on donations to a youth will be taken through the QR code or website until 2:00PM on Thursday, August 7th, 2025. After 2:00 PM you can make an add-on donation at the checkout table.

Your presence and support are appreciated greatly, and as always, the sale is one piece of a larger showcase of youth agriculture in Kalamazoo County. Visit the <u>Kalamazoo County 4-H website</u> for all of the 4-H events happening throughout the week.



We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rose President, Livestock Superintendents Association

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