Important Livestock Information
July 8, 2015

This letter contains a summary of important livestock information about entering your animal at the fair.

For more information, please review the 4-H/FFA Market Animal Project Guidebook and Garrett County Fair Premium Book.

**Exhibitor Entry Form & Number** – Please complete the entry form that is in the back of the fair premium book. Take this form to the fair computer office to obtain or verify your exhibitor number before entering your animals. Return this form to fair computer office after the animal superintendent has signed off on the entry form. If you are entering indoor exhibits, you may complete a separate entry form on Saturday, but be sure to use the same exhibitor number for all your entries.

**Pictures** – Pictures for buyer posters and exhibitors are taken by a local photographer on Monday. The member must have their picture taken with the animal at the fair on the scheduled day or they cannot sell. Picture order is pigs, steers, rabbits, goats, and chickens and sheep. Please do not feed pigs Monday morning. Pig pictures will be taken first and it is much easier for pigs to pose for their pictures if they are eating a pan of feed.

**Fairgrounds Entrance** – All animals arriving on the Fairgrounds must use the main entrance off Mosser Road. Animals may be unloaded in the barn areas only. Unloading of animals between the barn area and the main exhibit barn and old fair office area will not be permitted. The Rt. 219 gate will not be available for vehicle traffic or walk-ins.

**Livestock & Horse Trailers** – All exhibitors will be expected to take their livestock & horse trucks and trailers home and not park them on the fairgrounds during fair week.

**Steers** – The superintendent will dismiss steers (a few at a time) for weigh-in & shows. Weigh slips will be given to steer exhibitors at the scales. Members who have any concerns that their steer may be jumpy or nervous should ask to be weighed last and the exhibitor should have helpers at the scales. There will be no rate of gain for the 2015 steers.

**Sheep & Goats** – Exhibitors must remove covers at the time they are weighed. Covers must also be removed from 4:30pm to 5:30pm on Sunday after check in for a health check.

**Show Ringmasters** – Each show will have a ringmaster who will be available to provide assistance to youth in the ring. Parents are reminded that they are not permitted in the show ring while children are showing.

**Signs** – All signs/animal names are expected to have appropriate names and/or themes. Use the 4-H/FFA Behavioral Expectations (4-H 418) as a guide. If you have a question, please ask. Do not put signs up in barns until 5:30 pm on Sunday.

**Small Animal Pens** – must be cleaned out to the ground by Friday at noon. New bedding will be available.

**Tagging** – There cannot be more than one of beef, sheep, swine, or goat tagged or sold per member. A member can only show and sell two (2) market animals (beef, sheep, swine, goats, rabbits or chickens.)

**Release of Exhibits** – Livestock only may be removed after 11:00 pm on Saturday, August 8, 2015. Indoor exhibits will be released on Sunday, August 9, 2015 from 11:00am – 1:00pm only. No indoor exhibits will be removed on Saturday, August 8th.
**Things to Know!**

**Livestock Marketing Brochure** – Livestock Marketing Brochure will be available for 4-H youth to assist with selling their market animal at the fair. It is aimed at potential buyers to help them understand how much meat they will get from the animal and value of the meat. Brochures are available online at [http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/4-h-youth-development/fair](http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/4-h-youth-development/fair) and at the office.

**Livestock Skillathon** – Livestock Skillathon will be held on Monday, August 3rd at 12:00 Noon in the Ag Heritage Hall at the Garrett County Fair. All livestock exhibitors are invited to participate. The skillathon will include identification of breeds, parts of the animals, equipment, grains & minerals, and a written exam. Please arrive 10 minutes early. Registration is easy! Email your name, age and division, 4-H club and t-shirt size to gcfairskillathon@yahoo.com. Please register by July 20th. The first 50 to register will receive an event t-shirt. Awards will be given on Tuesday, August 4th at 10:00 AM at the 4-H stage. Last year we were able to award prizes to the top 8 in each age division. Prizes included halters & leads, combs & brushes, buckets & feed pans, show sticks & pig whips, gift certificates, etc. Each participant needs to attend the award ceremony. Kids who receive awards get to choose their own prize, that way they get something that they can use with the species of animal they raise. If you are not present someone will choose for you. The committee is accepting sponsorships from individuals, businesses, farms and clubs. New items can be donated for prizes or monetary donations of any size can be made and will be used towards t-shirts. Sponsorships valued at $25 or more and received by July 10th will get their name printed on the back of the event t-shirts. For more information on the event, sponsorship or to register by phone please contact Crystal DeBerry at 301-268-5402 or Morgan Edwards at 301-616-9778.

**Self Certification of Animal Health & Health Forms** – All animal exhibitors (beef, sheep, swine, goat, poultry & rabbits) must fill out a self-certification section of the animal health form prior to bringing animals and shall be presented along with the completed health form to the superintendent at check-in for review. The forms will be returned to exhibitor during fair week. Animals housed outside of Garrett County must have Interstate Health Form. **Animal Health Rejections**: Animal rejections for health reasons can be made by MDA Animal Health veterinarians, field inspectors, private veterinarians contracted by the show, University of Maryland Extension employees, superintendents, or livestock oversight committee. Suspicion of communicable disease is adequate grounds for rejection. Confirmed diagnosis is not required, since timely removal of suspicious animals is required by law to protect the remaining animals. If it is believed that there is a potentially serious communicable disease present, all animals originating with the suspect animal may be rejected. Vesicular diseases are of particular concern. All decisions are final. All parties involved will be notified of all rejections and the exhibitor is responsible for removal of the animal(s) from the grounds immediately. A licensed veterinarian will be available to check animals prior to unloading for weigh-in and to conduct a walk-through health check after all animals are in place in the barns. During fair week, any medical issues of exhibited animals will be the responsibility of the exhibitor and families should call their regular veterinarian to arrange for advice or care.

**Fair Gates** – The gates will be open and will not be manned before 9:00 am. Regular fair entry rules will apply after 9:00 am. Call 301 387-5400 for help with feed and a gator.

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**Parents & Youth**

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In general, many exhibitors need help handling and grooming animals during the fair. After all, the livestock project is intended as a learning experience. Exhibitors will not learn the correct ways to handle and groom livestock without help from parents or older youth. However, there will be times when too much help is offered and the exhibitor finds him/herself watching and not doing. Remember, the goal for livestock projects, is for youth to have an opportunity to learn to keep records and participate in the care of their animal. If each exhibitor will carefully follow the guidelines, the livestock shows will go smoothly and all youth should have a positive experience at the fair.

**Entry Day** – Entry day for all livestock is Sunday, August 2, 2015. Weigh-in will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. (Dairy must be on the grounds by noon on Monday).

Debbie Barnard will serve as Livestock Coordinator. She will coordinate all activities using the show ring. Each species section has superintendents to work with activities during the week. If you have questions, contact Debbie or the appropriate superintendent.

**Underweight and overweight animals** – Underweight and overweight animals will be able to remain on the grounds. These under and overweight animals (steers, hogs, lambs, and goats) will have the opportunity to be judged in a super light weight or super heavy weight class in their respective species and will be eligible for the premiums that are established for each species. Exhibitors with under or overweight animals will also be able to participate in showmanship for that species. Under and overweight animals will not be able to compete for division or overall championship honors. Under and overweight animals are not eligible for the market livestock sale on Saturday evening. To qualify for rate-of-gain, an animal must be eligible for the livestock sale. Underweight and overweight animals will not be eligible for this award or for sale. Underweight and overweight animals will not be transported by the Garrett County Livestock Association or the Garrett County Fair. Any exhibitor of an under or overweight animal will be responsible to transport that animal from the fairgrounds at the conclusion of the fair. Any animal remaining on the fairgrounds Monday morning at 9:00am, following the fair will become property of the Garrett County Fair and will be taken to stockyard.

**Animal Exhibitor Passes** – Animal Exhibitor Passes - exhibitor and driver passes for livestock exhibitors will be distributed at the show ring on Sunday, August 2 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. In order to obtain your passes, please bring your completed entry form with you to the show ring. Any exhibitor that does not pick up their passes during this time should contact Terri Rodeheaver or Lisa Brenneman of the GC Fair Board. Siblings who are not exhibiting are not issued passes but may purchase daily passes at one of several advance ticket sales locations throughout the county or at the Fair office during the week of the fair. Visit the fair’s website at www.garrettcountyfair.org for the advance ticket locations. Passes for livestock exhibitors and drivers will be issued for daily entry and must be given to the gate personnel upon entering the fairgrounds. If you leave during the day and plan to return, you will need to stop at the exit gate on the way out to receive a daily re-admission wrist band.

**Rabbits/Poultry** – All rabbits & poultry will need a completed self-certification form and state registration form. All poultry & rabbits will be checked as part of the Sunday health check. Any poultry without the required leg bands will be dismissed. Rabbits will need a tattoo in their left ear for the fair. All exhibitors need to be present for rabbit judging. Exhibitors planning to bring meat rabbits (pen of three) or meat birds (pen of 2) to fair will be required to complete a livestock card to be eligible for the livestock sale at the fair. If you do not have the card, it will be available from the Rabbit superintendent on entry day.

**Swine Exhibits**

1. All pig pens will be bedded with saw dust that will be provided by the Fair.
2. There will be wash pens available where exhibitors will be able to bathe their pigs. Pigs will not be bathed in the pens due to the switch to dry bedding. Water nipples for the pigs will remain in the pens.
3. Pig pens must be cleaned daily, and cleaning must be completed by 12 noon.
4. It will not be necessary to completely empty the pens of the dry bedding each day. Exhibitors will
need to clean up any manure in the pens at least daily. We anticipate that a complete change of the dry bedding will be necessary at least 2 times during the week of the fair. Garrett County Fair Livestock Committee members will monitor the conditions in the barn to help determine if the bedding needs to be completely changed more often.

5. Overhead fans are installed in the swine barn, therefore individual fans will not be allowed.

6. There will be an opportunity to exercise pigs in the show ring on Tuesday after 10:30 pm or Wednesday 6:00 am – 7:00 am.

7. Swine exhibitors will be responsible to move their pigs to and from the show ring at the appointed times. There will be adults in the barn to inform exhibitors about what class is in the ring or on deck. Adults will assist as needed.

8. There will be no swine breeding classes at the fair for 2015.

**Orientation Meetings** – This year there will be two events. On the Wednesday before the fair, July 29th at 7 pm, an orientation designed for new exhibitors will be held at the fair show ring. This will include information about all aspects of having an animal at the fair. On Sunday, August 2nd at 5:30 pm, an orientation meeting will be held at the show ring for all animal exhibitors. This event will highlight the things that are new or different for this year as well as reminding exhibitors of important rules and responsibilities associated with having a market animal on the fairgrounds.

**Stall Cards** – Cards will be available from Debbie Barnard at Fair Office. Cards must be displayed for all livestock.

**Sale** – The sale will start at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, 2015. Sale order will be swine, steers, rabbits, goats, and chickens and sheep. Animals may be donated to charities. There will be no resale of animals. The following animals must be sold: Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion and County Bred Grand Champion and County Bred Reserve Grand Champion market animals. The sale bill will be available on-line on the Garrett County Extension website and also on the Garrett County Agricultural Fair website as soon as possible. In addition, a printed copy will be posted in the barns as soon as it is finalized.

**Awards** – Livestock citizenship & scholarship awards program will be held just prior to the sale at the show ring. All other trophies and awards will be presented after each show.

**Cleaning** - Cleaning the show ring and walkways between barns is the responsibility of all exhibitors. Example: If the swine show is Wednesday evening, the swine exhibitors would clean the ring and the walkways Thursday morning. Please give your time to help keep the areas clean. All animals should be fed, washed, and in stalls by 12 noon except show day. Please observe the 11:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. curfew of not feeding or disturbing the animals.

**Final Night** – Cleaning of the pens at the end of the Fair will be the responsibility of the Fair Board. Each exhibitor will be charged $2.00 per animal by the Fair Board on entry day. Beef must be left tied with a halter after the sale. Put a nametag on your halter (tags will be available). Halters may be picked up at the University of Maryland Extension Garrett office the following week after Wednesday. The final Fair clean-up will be on Saturday night, August 8th and Sunday, August 9th. All 4-H/FFA members, parents, leaders, and friends are needed to help.

**Thank-You Cards/Letters** – Thank-you cards/letters to all buyers and trophy/award sponsors are important and required, and should be done immediately after the fair. All trophies should have a sticker on the bottom with the award sponsor's name and address. All thank-you letters (stamped, sealed and ready to mail) must be turned in to the Livestock Association at the University of Maryland Extension Garrett office, or given to your 4-H Leader or FFA Advisor by September 1, 2015. If given to leader or FFA Advisor, they need to notify the University of Maryland Extension Garrett Office. Checks will not be issued until thank-you letters are sent.

We appreciate the time that Casselman Veterinary Service volunteered at weigh-in to do the health checks. If your animals were included, please include them when sending thank-you notes at this address: 77 Hemlock Drive, Grantsville, MD 21536.

**“The Republican” Special Section** – Newspaper coverage of the fair will be in a special section of the Republican Newspaper again this year.
This section will include highlights of all entries of the fair. It will also include pictures of the shows. If you would like your ad to be placed in this fair section, complete the attached form and turn into Lisa Broadwater.

The Fair is an excellent opportunity for exhibitors to highlight their project work, as well as to help educate the public about animal safety, care of animals, and the value of participating in youth livestock programs. Let us work together to make this a great fair.

Sincerely,

Ann C. Sherrard
Ann C. Sherrard
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

Enclosures

cc: All Market Livestock Superintendent
    Vernon Paugh, President of GC Livestock Assoc.
    Debbie Friend, President of GC Ag Fair
    Animal Health Lab
    Debra Barnard, Livestock Coordinator
    4-H Club Organizational Leaders
    FFA Organizational Leaders
Dear 4-H Livestock Exhibitors

Once again, the summer has passed quickly and it is time for the annual Garrett County Fair.

Plans are being finalized to publish the special fair section again this year which includes most of the fair activities. Our hope is to provide all of the 4-H members with lasting memories of their 4-H/FFA projects.

Please understand that we try to cover as much of the fair as space permits.

We will try to take as many pictures as possible after each show and we encourage families to also snap their pictures while we are doing so. We usually try to take lots of extra snap shots as well. We never know how many will be needed and which pictures will fit the best.

We will once again give each member the opportunity to place their Thank You ad in the fair section if they so desire. We have attached a form for your convenience. Please return the form along with payment to Lisa Broadwater.

The forms may also be returned to The Republican Newspaper office in Oakland or Grantsville after the fair. (If you return the form before the sale, we will fill in the buyer's name.) The deadline to include your ad in the fair tab is Wednesday, August 12th at 5.00 p.m.

Please contact me at the Grantsville office if you have any questions, or suggestions on how to improve the fair section. Remember it is for you and your child. I can be reached at 301-746-8223 or 301-895-5827.

Sincerely,

Lisa Broadwater
Grantsville Office Manager
The Republican Newspaper
ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM

DEADLINE IS AUGUST 12, 2015 AT 5 P.M.
TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FAIR SECTION

Name: __________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________

Daytime Phone # (required) ____________________ Signature ____________________________

Please write your ad information in the box just as you would like it to appear in your ad. The buyer’s name will be written in for you if you turn the form in before the sale.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY

Artwork is available at the discretion of The Republican.

2x2 Price: $25.00

2x4 Price: $50.00

2x3 Price: $37.50

To Pay by Credit Card

Name on Card __________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________
Phone # ________________________________________________
Credit Card # __________________________________________
Expiration Date __________ 3 Digit Code ________

Those wishing to advertise with larger ads may contact our
Oakland Office at 301-334-3963 or the Grantsville Office at 301-895-5827.

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH PAYMENT – ALL ADS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.
Payment (check or credit card) will be accepted at the 4-H office at the fair. (NO CASH)

Payment may also be made at either office of The Republican.

The Republican is not responsible for incorrect information submitted by the advertiser.