



The Great Frederick Fair, Inc.

FREDERICK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, INC.

April 5, 2021

Past (and future) Buyers of The Frederick County
Beef, Sheep, Swine, Turkey, Rabbits and/or Goats Sale,

The Great Frederick Fair is proud to announce that we will be hosting the 2021 Frederick County Youth Livestock Sale LIVE (IN-PERSON), as well as VIRTUAL (ONLINE), on **Saturday, September 25!** We are extending this invite to you and noting the day/time change so you can plan ahead!

(Under the current MD Department of Agricultural Guidelines, ag sales and livestock auctions ARE permitted).

The Fair Board has worked very hard to be completely transparent with exhibitors, buyers, sponsors, and volunteers throughout this transition. Sadly, when there is change, there can be some pushback, misunderstanding and miscommunication resulting in rumors. Our goal is to make sure everyone understands the WHY, WHEN and HOW to continue supporting our 4-H and FFA members in Frederick County!

The Fair is making a technical change of the name “4-H/FFA” to “Youth” Livestock Show & Sale which allows us to proactively start planning for an in-person event in September. (In 2020, because of COVID, the Fair cancelled all activities except for the 4-H/FFA shows. Because of those organization’s restrictions, the Fair had to rename this as a “Youth” show. In 2020, many of the same volunteers and superintendents participated to make it possible. Eligibility was limited to 4-H and FFA members who were Frederick County residents only, based on health department guidance.) This year and moving forward, eligibility requirements are literally the same as they have been in the past (2019 and prior): Exhibitors must be members in good standing in Frederick County 4-H and/or FFA. The Fair’s mission statement says “*GFF exists to promote Agriculture and the Education of our Youth about the Industry of Agriculture.*” We do so by using strategies and policies including: 1. Education is the Number ONE Priority accomplished by providing 4-H and FFA Members and Youth at Large with a means of Learning by Doing, Showing to the Public their Accomplishments, and completing their projects for the year; 2. Partnerships with 4-H, FFA, and the Ag Community will promote Ag Literacy and Ag career paths. With that in mind, the Fair has kept both 4-H and FFA leaders in the planning conversations and hope these organizations will continue working cooperatively with the Fair for the benefit of the youth.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

-The Name “4-H/FFA” to “Youth” Livestock Show & Sale (Eligibility requires exhibitors to be members in good standing in Frederick County 4-H and/or FFA)

-Date/Time Change of all livestock sales to 2nd Saturday

-Administrative Logistics

The Fair reached out to all the current 4-H/FFA Superintendents, gauged their interest and assigned Youth Superintendents for each livestock department. By making this change, superintendents will report/request directly to the Fair office. (judges, ribbons, awards, building or barn upgrades, etc.) We can plan an in-person show and sale despite the organization’s regulations and restrictions limiting gathering numbers and prohibiting administrative support. The Fair Board’s hope is that by September, both 4-H and FFA organizations will allow and be able to hold their other activities during the Fair including the Cake Sale, Greenhand, Royalty and Character Counts Ceremonies. In the past, the livestock sales were run by individual clubs and were throughout our annual Fair. By making this transition, the Fair assumes all liability and financial obligations. The Livestock Sale Committee also hopes to reduce, or minimize the sale commission for the Beef, Sheep & Swine Club Sale, for the children by offsetting expenses with sponsorship support.

On behalf of The Great Frederick Fair Youth Livestock Sale Committee, we invite you to mark your calendars and plan to attend and support the **GFF Youth Livestock Sale in the South Side Tire & Auto Beef Show Ring (Building 18) on Saturday, September 25, 2021. Turkeys and Rabbits will be sold, beginning at 10 a.m. and then Beef, Sheep, Swine and Goats at 1 p.m.** For ALL the details, visit www.TheGreatFrederickFair.com/YouthShowFAQ

If anyone has specific questions, please feel free to email entries@thegreatfrederickfair.com.

Sincerely,

Karen Nicklas, General Manager

(On behalf of The Great Frederick Fair Board of Directors and The GFF Livestock Sale Committee)