



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SIX 4-H MEMBERS CLAIM GRAND CHAMPION TITLES

INDIANAPOLIS- Six exhibitors finished as Grand Champions in the 2016 Indiana State Fair Grand Drive Presented by Farm Credit Mid-America. The top livestock of various species, weights, and classes and their exhibitors from across the Hoosier state battled it out in the Indiana Farmer's Coliseum Sunday evening for the title that they have worked towards for the past year. The categories included Dairy Steer, Meat Goat Wether, Market Lamb, Rabbit Meat Pen, Market Barrow, and Beef Steer.

4-H member Travis Wallen, 15, of Johnson County has poured his heart into his Grand Champion Market Barrow since it was just five weeks old. He says his barrow won due to his 'wow' factor.

"Even as a baby he was different- massive," said Wallen. "He was the biggest out there but it's also about being functional and good at it."

Wallen has three more years of eligibility to show in 4-H and doesn't know how he will make it to this level again without his prized pig, but is ready to take on the challenge.

The Grand Champions are as follows:

- **Grand Champion Dairy Steer:** Courtney Lotter, Adams
- **Grand Champion Meat Goat Wether:** Brad Berlet, Cass
- **Grand Champion Market Lamb:** Austin Bernicky, Elkhart
- **Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen:** Jade Michael, Wabash
- **Grand Champion Market Barrow:** Travis Wallen, Johnson
- **Grand Champion Beef Steer:** Cayde Selke, Clinton

Second place was awarded to the following:

- **Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Steer:** Elise Cormany, Whitley
- **Reserve Grand Champion Meat Goat Wether:** Ryan O'Farrell, Carroll
- **Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb:** Logan Tressler, Rush
- **Reserve Grand Champion Market Barrow:** Daniel Young, Hamilton
- **Reserve Grand Champion Beef Steer:** Warner Ott, Noble

Over \$100,000 is raised by the Indiana State Fair Foundation to provide the monetary awards for these individuals. The top placing 4-H members will be recognized for all of their hard work once again at the Celebration of Champions on August 21st.

For more information on the results of this year's Indiana State Fair 4-H Grand Drive presented by Farm Credit Mid-America, visit the [website](#) and [Flickr account](#).

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About the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center

The Indiana State Fairgrounds and Event Center is a modern public event facility that annually hosts more than 300 meetings, shows, sports and agricultural events, including the Indiana State Fair. The year-round management of the Fairgrounds is overseen by the Indiana State Fair Commission which is a quasi-governmental agency that was established in 1992, with the mission to preserve and enhance the Indiana State Fairgrounds and the annual Indiana State Fair for the benefit of all citizens of Indiana. Additional information is available at www.indianastatefair.com.