

April 29, 2021

Dear Friends and Family,

For the past three years I have been a member of the Pleasant Grove FFA Chapter. This year I am raising a market hog for the 2021 Sacramento County Fair. As you know, I did not grow up on a farm or with agriculture in my background. In 8th grade I was given the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and join Agriculture Science classes with the FFA. I have explored many different activities that are offered to members in the FFA organization. One of my favorite parts of the FFA is competing in the FFA Public Speaking Competitions. I have also attended various Leadership Conferences where I learned how to grow my skills as a leader to impact our future. I have had the opportunity to advocate for agriculture by speaking to legislatures at Capitol Ag Day and at the California Almond Festival. This year, I served as Pleasant Grove FFA's Chapter Reporter and I will serve as 2021-2022 Chapter Vice President. While participating in FFA events, I have learned how to advance my communication skills, apply my leadership skills to impact my future, work responsibly with proper time management, and step outside of my comfort zone by raising a market hog.

Being a member of the FFA has been one of the most educational and memorable experiences I have had as a high school student. One requirement of our FFA Agriculture Science Class is to have a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). This year my SAE project is to raise and sell a market hog. Raising a hog has required lots of time management, with hours of work needed for cleaning the pens, feeding livestock, working at the barn, training my hog, and attending various meetings. I have learned how to apply knowledge and learn with hands-on experience outside of a traditional classroom setting. This experience has taught me the value of patience, understanding the importance of persistent effort, and maintaining dedication towards a project.

This year I am raising an AOB gilt (female) that is roughly five to six months old and has been my responsibility since January 31, 2021. I have learned and followed multiple regulations and rules put in place to ensure the safety and health of the livestock. As of April 19th, my hog weighed approximately 195 lbs and is expected to weigh around 235 lbs by fair. The profit from my market hog will allow me to meet my goal of earning my FFA State Degree. In addition, all profits will be spent on tuition to a University to study Agricultural Communications in the hopes of pursuing a future career as an Agricultural Lobbyist.

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I am writing this letter to ask for your financial support; I would be grateful if you would support my project in one of two ways:

- 1) If you would like to contribute to the bidding and share a portion of the hog, please visit www.thejaimes.com and fill out the needed information **before May 8th**. Participating as a buyer means you will be part of a limited group purchasing and splitting the hog. If possible, I would appreciate it if you would be available on Sunday, May 30th for the LIVE auction at the Sacramento Livestock Husbandry and Grading Expo. Tickets are available for purchase at www.sacfair.com.
- 2) If you would like to support my project through donations but *not* receive a portion of the hog, please visit www.thejaimes.com and fill out the needed information before May 30th. Your “add-on” donation will still be counted toward meeting my overall goal.

Once I hear of your interest to participate, I will contact you for further instructions and personally explain this year’s process.

While the format of the fair will be different this year, I hope you will still be able to participate in the 2021 Junior Livestock Auction for the Sacramento County Fair!

Thank you for your support and generosity!

Sincerely,

Kaylen Jaime
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