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## **ANNUAL KENTUCKY COUNTRY HAM BREAKFAST AND AUCTION RAISES THOUSANDS FOR CHARITY**

**Louisville, Ky. (August 25, 2011)** – This morning \$600,000 was raised for local charities at the 48<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast and Auction, sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau. The ham auction completed the morning festivities that included appearances by local and state officials and speeches by Governor Steve Beshear, Senator Mitch McConnell, Senator Rand Paul, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer and Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer.

The blue-ribbon winning ham was raised by Broadbent B&B Foods of Kuttawa, Kentucky and weighed in at 16 pounds, 9 ounces. Republic Bank paid \$600,000 for the country ham.

Since its inception in 1964, the Kentucky Ham Auction has raised more than \$5.6 million dollars for charity. Last year's auction tipped the scales and the record books with a record-setting \$1.6 million winning bid by Bernard Trager, Chairman of Republic Bank and Trust, and Dr. Mark Lynn & Associates, owner of Dr. Bizer's Vision World.

For continued updates on everything offered at this year's Fair, visit the official website at [www.kystatefair.org](http://www.kystatefair.org).

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The Kentucky State Fair is an 11-day celebration of the history, heritage and culture of the Bluegrass State. More than 600,000 attend America's largest indoor fair, which uses over 1.2 million square feet of contiguous exhibit space at the Kentucky Exposition Center. While its roots are in agriculture, the Kentucky State Fair has grown into a trade and public education exposition, as well as a major entertainment venue. The World's Championship Horse Show, held during the Fair, is the world's richest and most prestigious Saddlebred show. Attendees and exhibitors contribute over \$16.8 million annually in economic impact. The Kentucky State Fair & World's Championship Horse Show are owned and produced by the Kentucky State Fair Board, an agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

